

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
22 July 2004 (22.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/060882 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **C07D 333/10**,  
213/36, 211/70, 209/44, C07C 221/27, A61K 31/137,  
31/4035, 31/4418, 31/451, 31/381, A61P 25/04

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/SE2003/002088

(22) International Filing Date:  
29 December 2003 (29.12.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0300010-6 7 January 2003 (07.01.2003) SE

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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR,  
CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD,

GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR,  
KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN,  
MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU,  
SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA,  
UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),  
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,  
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE,  
SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA,  
GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted  
a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE,  
AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ,  
CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE,  
EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN,  
IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV,  
MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM,  
PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ,  
TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,  
ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD,  
SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY,  
KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG,  
CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT,  
LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ,  
CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD,  
TG)

**Published:**

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CB 1/CB 2 RECEPTOR LIGANDS AND THEIR USE IN THE TREATMENT OF PAIN

(57) Abstract: Compounds of formula (I) or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof wherein Ar<sub>1</sub>1?, Ar<sub>2</sub>2?, R<sub>1</sub>1?, R<sub>2</sub>2?, n and X are as defined in the specifications as well as salts and pharmaceutical compositions including the compounds are prepared. They are useful in therapy, in particular in the management of pain.

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CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptor ligands and their use in the treatment of pain.

## **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

### 5 1. Field of the invention

The invention is related to compounds which are CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptor ligands, pharmaceutical compositions containing these compounds, manufacturing processes thereof and uses thereof, and more particularly to compounds that are CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptor agonists. The present invention may also relate to compounds that may be effective in treating pain, cancer, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's chorea, Alzheimer's disease, anxiety disorders, vision and/or eye related disorders, gastrointestinal disorders and cardiovascular disorders.

### 2. Discussion of Relevant Technology

Pain management has been an important field of study for many years. It has been well known that cannabinoid receptor (e.g., CB<sub>1</sub> receptors, CB<sub>2</sub> receptors) ligands, especially agonists produce relief of pain in a variety of animal models by interacting with CB<sub>1</sub> and/or CB<sub>2</sub> receptors. Generally, CB<sub>1</sub> receptors are located predominately in the central nervous system, whereas CB<sub>2</sub> receptors are located primarily in the periphery and are primarily restricted to the cells and tissues derived from the immune system.

While the conventional CB<sub>1</sub> receptor agonists and CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptor agonists, such as tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and opiate drugs, are highly effective in anti-nociception models in animals, they tend to exert many undesired CNS (central nerve system) side-effects, e.g., psychoactive side effects and the abuse potential of opiate drugs.

Therefore, there is a need for new CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptor ligands such as agonists useful in managing pain or treating other related symptoms or diseases with reduced or minimal undesirable CNS side-effects. The compounds of the invention may be used to avoid the undesired CNS side effects which arise through the central CB<sub>1</sub> mechanism.

## **DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention provides CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptor ligands which are useful in treating pain and other related symptoms or diseases.

### Definitions

Unless specified otherwise within this specification, the nomenclature used in this specification generally follows the examples and rules stated in *Nomenclature of Organic Chemistry, Sections A, B, C, D, E, F, and H*, Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1979, which is incorporated by references herein for its exemplary chemical structure names and rules on naming chemical structures. Optionally, a name of a compound may be generated using a chemical naming program: ACD/ChemSketch, Version 5.09/September 2001, Advanced Chemistry Development, Inc., Toronto, Canada.

10       "CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptors" means CB<sub>1</sub> and/or CB<sub>2</sub> receptors.

      The term "C<sub>m-n</sub>" or "C<sub>m-n</sub> group" used alone or as a prefix, refers to any group having m to n carbon atoms, and having 0 to n multivalent heteroatoms selected from O, S, N and P, wherein m and n are 0 or positive integers, and n>m. For example, "C<sub>1-6</sub>" would refer to a chemical group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and having 0 to 6 multivalent heteroatoms selected from O, S, N and P.

15       The term "hydrocarbon" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to any structure comprising only carbon and hydrogen atoms up to 14 carbon atoms.

      The term "hydrocarbon radical" or "hydrocarbyl" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to any structure as a result of removing one or more hydrogens from a hydrocarbon.

20       The term "alkyl" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to monovalent straight or branched chain hydrocarbon radicals comprising 1 to about 12 carbon atoms. Unless otherwise specified, "alkyl" general includes both saturated alkyl and unsaturated alkyl.

25       The term "alkylene" used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to divalent straight or branched chain hydrocarbon radicals comprising 1 to about 12 carbon atoms, which serves to links two structures together.

      The term "alkenyl" used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to a monovalent straight or branched chain hydrocarbon radical having at least one carbon-carbon double bond and comprising at least 2 up to about 12 carbon atoms.

30       The term "alkynyl" used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to a monovalent straight or branched chain hydrocarbon radical having at least one carbon-carbon triple bond and comprising at least 2 up to about 12 carbon atoms.

The term "cycloalkyl," used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to a monovalent ring-containing hydrocarbon radical comprising at least 3 up to about 12 carbon atoms.

5 The term "cycloalkenyl" used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to a monovalent ring-containing hydrocarbon radical having at least one carbon-carbon double bond and comprising at least 3 up to about 12 carbon atoms.

The term "cycloalkynyl" used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to a monovalent ring-containing hydrocarbon radical having at least one carbon-carbon triple bond and comprising about 7 up to about 12 carbon atoms.

10 The term "aryl" used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to a monovalent hydrocarbon radical having one or more polyunsaturated carbon rings having aromatic character, (*e.g.*,  $4n + 2$  delocalized electrons) and comprising 5 up to about 14 carbon atoms.

15 The term "arylene" used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to a divalent hydrocarbon radical having one or more polyunsaturated carbon rings having aromatic character, (*e.g.*,  $4n + 2$  delocalized electrons) and comprising 5 up to about 14 carbon atoms, which serves to link two structures together.

20 The term "heterocycle" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to a ring-containing structure or molecule having one or more multivalent heteroatoms, independently selected from N, O, P and S, as a part of the ring structure and including at least 3 and up to about 20 atoms in the ring(s). Heterocycle may be saturated or unsaturated, containing one or more double bonds, and heterocycle may contain more than one ring. When a heterocycle contains more than one ring, the rings may be fused or unfused. Fused rings generally refer to at least two rings share  
25 two atoms therebetween. Heterocycle may have aromatic character or may not have aromatic character.

The term "heteroalkyl" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to a radical formed as a result of replacing one or more carbon atom of an alkyl with one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, P and S.

30 The term "heteroaromatic" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to a ring-containing structure or molecule having one or more multivalent heteroatoms, independently selected from N, O, P and S, as a part of the ring structure and including at least 3 and up to about 20 atoms in the ring(s), wherein the ring-

containing structure or molecule has an aromatic character (*e.g.*,  $4n + 2$  delocalized electrons).

The term "heterocyclic group," "heterocyclic moiety," "heterocyclic," or "heterocyclo" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to a radical derived from a heterocycle by removing one or more hydrogens therefrom.

The term "heterocyclyl" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers a monovalent radical derived from a heterocycle by removing one hydrogen therefrom.

The term "heterocyclylene" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to a divalent radical derived from a heterocycle by removing two hydrogens therefrom, which serves to links two structures together.

The term "heteroaryl" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to a heterocyclyl having aromatic character.

The term "heterocylcoalkyl" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to a heterocyclyl that does not have aromatic character.

The term "heteroarylene" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to a heterocyclylene having aromatic character.

The term "heterocycloalkylene" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to a heterocyclylene that does not have aromatic character.

The term "six-membered" used as prefix refers to a group having a ring that contains six ring atoms.

The term "five-membered" used as prefix refers to a group having a ring that contains five ring atoms.

A five-membered ring heteroaryl is a heteroaryl with a ring having five ring atoms wherein 1, 2 or 3 ring atoms are independently selected from N, O and S.

Exemplary five-membered ring heteroaryls are thienyl, furyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-triazolyl, tetrazolyl, 1,2,3-thiadiazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-triazolyl, 1,2,4-thiadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-triazolyl, 1,3,4-thiadiazolyl, and 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl.

A six-membered ring heteroaryl is a heteroaryl with a ring having six ring atoms wherein 1, 2 or 3 ring atoms are independently selected from N, O and S.

Exemplary six-membered ring heteroaryls are pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, triazinyl and pyridazinyl.

The term "substituted" used as a prefix refers to a structure, molecule or group, wherein one or more hydrogens are replaced with one or more C<sub>1-12</sub>hydrocarbon groups, or one or more chemical groups containing one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O, S, F, Cl, Br, I, and P. Exemplary chemical groups containing one or more heteroatoms include heterocyclyl, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, oxo (=O), imino (=NR), thio (=S), and oximino (=N-OR), wherein each "R" is a C<sub>1-12</sub>hydrocarbyl. For example, substituted phenyl may refer to nitrophenyl, pyridylphenyl, methoxyphenyl, chlorophenyl, aminophenyl, etc., wherein the nitro, pyridyl, methoxy, chloro, and amino groups may replace any suitable hydrogen on the phenyl ring.

The term "substituted" used as a suffix of a first structure, molecule or group, followed by one or more names of chemical groups refers to a second structure, molecule or group, which is a result of replacing one or more hydrogens of the first structure, molecule or group with the one or more named chemical groups. For example, a "phenyl substituted by nitro" refers to nitrophenyl.

The term "optionally substituted" refers to both groups, structures, or molecules that are substituted and those that are not substituted.

Heterocycle includes, for example, monocyclic heterocycles such as: aziridine, oxirane, thiirane, azetidine, oxetane, thietane, pyrrolidine, pyrroline, imidazolidine, pyrazolidine, pyrazoline, dioxolane, sulfolane, 2,3-dihydrofuran, 2,5-dihydrofuran, tetrahydrofuran, thiophane, piperidine, 1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridine, piperazine, morpholine, thiomorpholine, pyran, thiopyran, 2,3-dihydropyran, tetrahydropyran, 1,4-dihydropyridine, 1,4-dioxane, 1,3-dioxane, dioxane, homopiperidine, 2,3,4,7-tetrahydro-1*H*-azepine, homopiperazine, 1,3-dioxepane, 4,7-dihydro-1,3-dioxepin, and hexamethylene oxide.

In addition, heterocycle includes aromatic heterocycles, for example, pyridine, pyrazine, pyrimidine, pyridazine, thiophene, furan, furazan, pyrrole, imidazole, thiazole, oxazole, pyrazole, isothiazole, isoxazole, 1,2,3-triazole, tetrazole, 1,2,3-thiadiazole, 1,2,3-oxadiazole, 1,2,4-triazole, 1,2,4-thiadiazole, 1,2,4-oxadiazole, 1,3,4-triazole, 1,3,4-thiadiazole, and 1,3,4-oxadiazole.

Additionally, heterocycle encompass polycyclic heterocycles, for example, indole, indoline, isoindoline, quinoline, tetrahydroquinoline, isoquinoline,

tetrahydroisoquinoline, 1,4-benzodioxan, coumarin, dihydrocoumarin, benzofuran, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran, isobenzofuran, chromene, chroman, isochroman, xanthene, phenoxathiin, thianthrene, indolizine, isoindole, indazole, purine, phthalazine, naphthyridine, quinoxaline, quinazoline, cinnoline, pteridine, phenanthridine, 5 perimidine, phenanthroline, phenazine, phenothiazine, phenoxazine, 1,2-benzisoxazole, benzothiophene, benzoxazole, benzthiazole, benzimidazole, benztriazole, thioxanthine, carbazole, carboline, acridine, pyrolizidine, and quinolizidine.

In addition to the polycyclic heterocycles described above, heterocycle 10 includes polycyclic heterocycles wherein the ring fusion between two or more rings includes more than one bond common to both rings and more than two atoms common to both rings. Examples of such bridged heterocycles include quinuclidine, diazabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane and 7-oxabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane.

Heterocyclyl includes, for example, monocyclic heterocyclyls, such as: 15 aziridinyl, oxiranyl, thiiranyl, azetidiny, oxetanyl, thietanyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrazolidinyl, pyrazolinyl, dioxolanyl, sulfolanyl, 2,3-dihydrofuranyl, 2,5-dihydrofuranyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, thiophanyl, piperidinyl, 1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, pyranyl, thiopyranyl, 2,3-dihydropyranyl, tetrahydropyranyl, 1,4-dihydropyridinyl, 1,4-dioxanyl, 1,3-dioxanyl, 20 dioxanyl, homopiperidinyl, 2,3,4,7-tetrahydro-1*H*-azepinyl, homopiperazinyl, 1,3-dioxepanyl, 4,7-dihydro-1,3-dioxepinyl, and hexamethylene oxidyl.

In addition, heterocyclyl includes aromatic heterocyclyls or heteroaryl, for example, pyridinyl, pyrazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, thienyl, furyl, furazanyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, pyrazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3- 25 triazolyl, tetrazolyl, 1,2,3-thiadiazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-triazolyl, 1,2,4-thiadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-triazolyl, 1,3,4-thiadiazolyl, and 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl.

Additionally, heterocyclyl encompasses polycyclic heterocyclyls (including both aromatic or non-aromatic), for example, indolyl, indolinyl, isoindolinyl, 30 quinolinyl, tetrahydroquinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, tetrahydroisoquinolinyl, 1,4-benzodioxanyl, coumarinyl, dihydrocoumarinyl, benzofuranyl, 2,3-dihydrobenzofuranyl, isobenzofuranyl, chromenyl, chromanyl, isochromanyl, xanthenyl, phenoxathiinyl, thianthrenyl, indolizinyl, isoindolyl, indazolyl, purinyl,

phthalazinyl, naphthyridinyl, quinoxalinyl, quinazolinyl, cinnolinyl, pteridinyl, phenanthridinyl, perimidinyl, phenanthrolinyl, phenazinyl, phenothiazinyl, phenoxazinyl, 1,2-benzisoxazolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzoxazolyl, benzthiazolyl, benzimidazolyl, benztriazolyl, thioxanthinyl, carbazolyl, carbolinyl, acridinyl, 5 pyrolizidinyl, and quinolizidinyl.

In addition to the polycyclic heterocyclyls described above, heterocyclyl includes polycyclic heterocyclyls wherein the ring fusion between two or more rings includes more than one bond common to both rings and more than two atoms common to both rings. Examples of such bridged heterocycles include quinuclidinyl, 10 diazabicyclo[2.2.1]heptyl; and 7-oxabicyclo[2.2.1]heptyl.

The term "alkoxy" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to radicals of the general formula -O-R, wherein -R is selected from a hydrocarbon radical. Exemplary alkoxy includes methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, isopropoxy, butoxy, t-butoxy, isobutoxy, cyclopropylmethoxy, allyloxy, and propargyloxy.

15 The term "aryloxy" used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to radicals of the general formula -O-Ar, wherein -Ar is an aryl.

The term "heteroaryloxy" used alone or as suffix or prefix, refers to radicals of the general formula -O-Ar', wherein -Ar' is a heteroaryl.

The term "amine" or "amino" used alone or as a suffix or prefix, refers to 20 radicals of the general formula -NRR', wherein R and R' are independently selected from hydrogen or a hydrocarbon radical.

"Acyl" used alone, as a prefix or suffix, means -C(=O)-R, wherein -R is an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, hydrogen, amino or alkoxy. Acyl groups include, for example, acetyl, propionyl, benzoyl, phenyl acetyl, carboethoxy, and 25 dimethylcarbamoyl.

Halogen includes fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine.

"Halogenated," used as a prefix of a group, means one or more hydrogens on the group is replaced with one or more halogens.

"RT" or "rt" means room temperature.

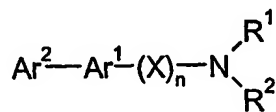
30 A first ring group being "fused" with a second ring group means the first ring and the second ring share at least two atoms therebetween.

"Link," "linked," or "linking," unless otherwise specified, means covalently linked or bonded.



Description of Preferred Embodiments

In one aspect, the invention provides a compound of formula I, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, diastereomers, enantiomers, or mixtures thereof:



5

I

wherein

$\text{Ar}^1$  is arylene, heteroarylene, substituted arylene or substituted heteroarylene, wherein a ring atom of  $\text{Ar}^1$  connected to  $\text{Ar}^2$  is separated from a ring atom of  $\text{Ar}^1$  connected to X by at least one atom;

10

$\text{Ar}^2$  is aryl, heteroaryl, substituted aryl or substituted heteroaryl;

n is 0 or 1;

X is a divalent group that separates groups connected thereto by one or two atoms;

$\text{R}^1$  is a monovalent  $\text{C}_{1-20}$  group comprising one or more heteroatoms selected from S, O, N and P;

15

$\text{R}^2$  is hydrogen,  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  acyl, substituted  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  acyl, substituted  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  alkylene, or substituted  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  alkylene, wherein said alkylene is linked to a ring carbon of  $\text{Ar}^1$ .

Particularly, the compounds of the present invention are those of formula I, wherein

20

$\text{Ar}^1$  is an arylene, heteroarylene, substituted arylene or substituted heteroarylene, wherein a ring atom of  $\text{Ar}^1$  connected to  $\text{Ar}^2$  is separated from a ring atom of  $\text{Ar}^1$  connected to X by at least one atom;

$\text{Ar}^2$  is an aryl, heteroaryl, substituted aryl or substituted heteroaryl;

25

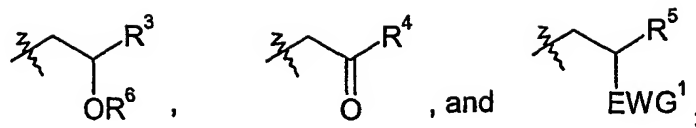
X is  $-\text{CH}_2-$ , or  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ ;

$\text{R}^2$  is  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl, substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{1-3}$  alkylene, or substituted  $\text{C}_{1-3}$  alkylene, wherein said alkylene is linked to a ring carbon of  $\text{Ar}^1$ .

More particularly, the compounds of the present invention are those of formula I, wherein

30

$\text{R}^1$  is selected from:



wherein  $R^3$  is optionally hydrogen, substituted  $C_{1-10}$ alkyl, optionally substituted  $C_{5-12}$ aryl, optionally substituted  $C_{3-10}$ heteroaryl, optionally substituted  
 5 aryloxy- $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxy- $C_{1-6}$ alkyl;

$R^4$  and  $R^5$  are, independently, hydrogen, optionally substituted  $C_{1-10}$ alkyl, optionally substituted  $C_{5-12}$ aryl, optionally substituted  $C_{3-10}$ heteroaryl, amino group, -NHC(=O)-O- $R^7$ , or -NHC(=O)- $R^7$ , wherein  $R^7$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl or aryl;

$R^6$  is hydrogen, optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, or optionally substituted aryl;  
 10 and

EWG<sup>1</sup> is an electron withdrawing group.

Even more particularly, the compounds of the present invention are those of formula I, wherein

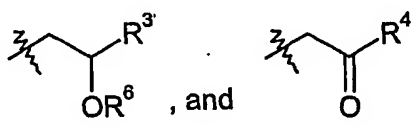
$Ar^1$  is optionally substituted *para*-phenylene, optionally substituted six-  
 15 membered *para*-heteroarylene, or optionally substituted monocyclic five-membered *meta*-heteroarylene;

$Ar^2$  is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted monocyclic five or six-membered heteroaryl;

X is -CH<sub>2</sub>-, or -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-;

20  $R^2$  is  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl, substituted  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-3}$  alkylene, or substituted  $C_{1-3}$  alkylene, wherein said alkylene is linked to a ring carbon of  $Ar^1$ .

$R^4$  is selected from:



wherein  $R^3$  is optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl,  
 25 optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl;

$R^4$  is, independently, optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl, amino, -NHC(=O)-O- $R^7$ , or -NHC(=O)- $R^7$ , wherein  $R^7$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl or phenyl;  
 and

$R^6$  is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl.

Most particularly, the compounds of the present invention are those of formula I, wherein

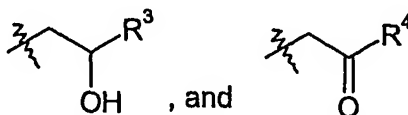
$\text{Ar}^1$  is *para*-phenylene or *para*-pyridylene;

$\text{Ar}^2$  is a phenyl *ortho*-substituted with an electron withdrawing group, or a thienyl *ortho*-substituted with an electron withdrawing group; Even more particularly,  $\text{Ar}^2$  is a phenyl *ortho*-substituted with -Cl, -F, -OMe, -OEt, -O-CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -NO<sub>2</sub>, or -CN; or thienyl *ortho*-substituted with -Cl, -F, -OMe, -OEt, -O-CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -CN, wherein said *ortho*-substituted  $\text{Ar}^2$  is optionally further substituted at its non-*ortho* position;

X is -CH<sub>2</sub>-;

$\text{R}^2$  is methyl.

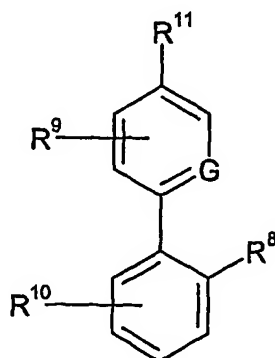
$\text{R}^1$  is selected from:



wherein  $\text{R}^3$  is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl; Even more particularly,  $\text{R}^3$  is phenyl, substituted phoxymethyl or substituted phenyl; and

$\text{R}^4$  is -NHC(=O)-O- $\text{R}^7$ , wherein  $\text{R}^7$  is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl.

In another aspect, the present invention provides a compound of formula II, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



**II**

wherein

G is N or CH;

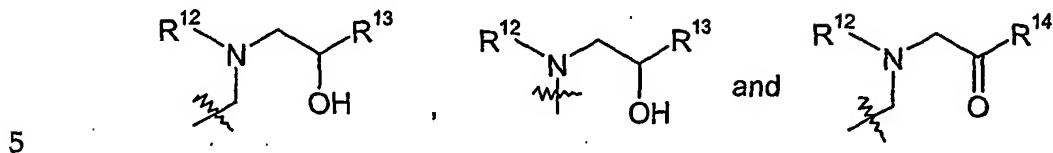
11

$R^8$  is selected from  $-H$ ,  $-CH_3$ ,  $-CF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$  and  $-CN$ ;

$R^9$  is selected from  $-H$  and  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl;

$R^{10}$  is selected from  $-H$  and  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl; and

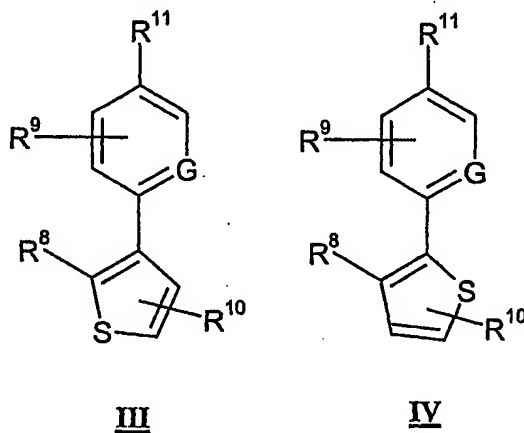
$R^{11}$  is selected from



wherein  $R^{12}$  is  $H$  or methyl,  $R^{13}$  is phenyl or substituted phenoxyethyl,  $R^{14}$  is  $-NHC(=O)OR^{15}$ , wherein  $R^{15}$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl.

In a further aspect, the present invention provides a compound of formula III or IV, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:

10



wherein

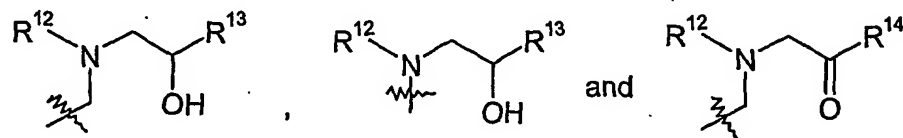
$G$  is  $N$  or  $CH$ ;

$R^8$  is selected from  $-H$ ,  $-CH_3$ ,  $-CF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$  and  $-CN$ ;

15  $R^9$  is selected from  $-H$  and  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl;

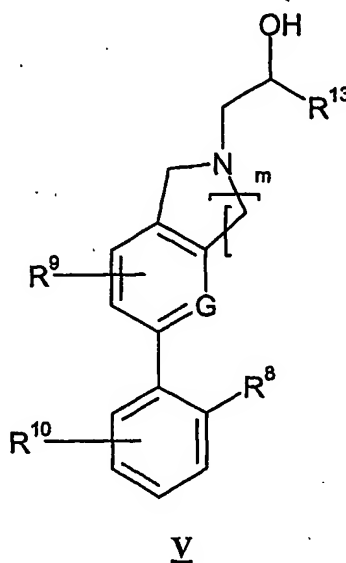
$R^{10}$  is selected from  $-H$  and  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl; and

$R^{11}$  is selected from



20 wherein  $R^{12}$  is  $H$  or methyl,  $R^{13}$  is phenyl or substituted phenoxyethyl,  $R^{14}$  is  $-NHC(=O)OR^{15}$ , wherein  $R^{15}$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl.

In an even further aspect, the present invention provides a compound of formula V, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



5

wherein

G is N or CH;

m is 1 or 2;

10  $R^8$  is selected from -H, -CH<sub>3</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -NO<sub>2</sub> and -CN;

$R^9$  is selected from -H and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl;

$R^{10}$  is selected from -H and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl; and

$R^{13}$  is phenyl or substituted phenoxymethyl.

It will be understood that when compounds of the present invention contain  
 15 one or more chiral centers, the compounds of the invention may exist in, and be isolated as, enantiomeric or diastereomeric forms, or as a racemic mixture. The present invention includes any possible enantiomers, diastereomers, racemates or mixtures thereof, of a compound of Formula I, II, III, IV or V. The optically active forms of the compound of the invention may be prepared, for example, by chiral  
 20 chromatographic separation of a racemate, by synthesis from optically active starting materials or by asymmetric synthesis based on the procedures described thereafter.

It will also be appreciated that certain compounds of the present invention may exist as geometrical isomers, for example E and Z isomers of alkenes. The present

invention includes any geometrical isomer of a compound of Formula I, II, III, IV or V. It will further be understood that the present invention encompasses tautomers of the compounds of the formula I, II, III, IV or V.

It will also be understood that certain compounds of the present invention may  
5 exist in solvated, for example hydrated, as well as unsolvated forms. It will further be understood that the present invention encompasses all such solvated forms of the compounds of the formula I, II, III, IV or V.

Within the scope of the invention are also salts of the compounds of the formula I, II, III, IV or V. Generally, pharmaceutically acceptable salts of compounds  
10 of the present invention may be obtained using standard procedures well known in the art, for example by reacting a sufficiently basic compound, for example an alkyl amine with a suitable acid, for example, HCl or acetic acid, to afford a physiologically acceptable anion. It may also be possible to make a corresponding alkali metal (such as sodium, potassium, or lithium) or an alkaline earth metal (such as a calcium) salt  
15 by treating a compound of the present invention having a suitably acidic proton, such as a carboxylic acid or a phenol with one equivalent of an alkali metal or alkaline earth metal hydroxide or alkoxide (such as the ethoxide or methoxide), or a suitably basic organic amine (such as choline or meglumine) in an aqueous medium, followed by conventional purification techniques.

20 In one embodiment, the compound of formula I, II, III, IV or V above may be converted to a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, particularly, an acid addition salt such as a hydrochloride, hydrobromide, phosphate, acetate, fumarate, maleate, tartrate, citrate, methanesulphonate or *p*-toluenesulphonate.

We have now found that the compounds of the invention have activity as  
25 pharmaceuticals, in particular as modulators or ligands such as agonists, partial agonists, inverse agonist or antagonists of CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptors. More particularly, the compounds of the invention exhibit selective activity as agonist of the CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptors, and are useful in the relief of pain, particularly chronic pain, e.g., chronic inflammatory pain, neuropathic pain, back pain, cancer pain and visceral pain.

30 Compounds of the present invention will also be useful in treating acute pain. Additionally, compounds of the present invention are useful in other disease states in which degeneration or dysfunction of CB<sub>1</sub>/CB<sub>2</sub> receptors is present or implicated.

Thus, the invention provides a compound of formula I, II, III, IV or V, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as hereinbefore defined for use in therapy.

5 In a further aspect, the present invention provides the use of a compound of formula I, II, III, IV or V, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as hereinbefore defined in the manufacture of a medicament for use in therapy.

In the context of the present specification, the term "therapy" also includes "prophylaxis" unless there are specific indications to the contrary. The term "therapeutic" and "therapeutically" should be construed accordingly. The term  
10 "therapy" within the context of the present invention further encompasses to administer an effective amount of a compound of the present invention, to mitigate either a pre-existing disease state, acute or chronic, or a recurring condition. This definition also encompasses prophylactic therapies for prevention of recurring conditions and continued therapy for chronic disorders.

15 The compounds of the present invention are useful in therapy, especially for the therapy of various pain conditions including, but not limited to: acute pain, chronic pain, neuropathic pain, acute pain, back pain, cancer pain, and visceral pain.

In use for therapy in a warm-blooded animal such as a human, the compound of the invention may be administered in the form of a conventional pharmaceutical  
20 composition by any route including orally, intramuscularly, subcutaneously, topically, intranasally, intraperitoneally, intrathoracically, intravenously, epidurally, intrathecally, intracerebroventricularly and by injection into the joints.

In one embodiment of the invention, the route of administration may be orally, intravenously or intramuscularly.

25 The dosage will depend on the route of administration, the severity of the disease, age and weight of the patient and other factors normally considered by the attending physician, when determining the individual regimen and dosage level at the most appropriate for a particular patient.

For preparing pharmaceutical compositions from the compounds of this  
30 invention, inert, pharmaceutically acceptable carriers can be either solid and liquid. Solid form preparations include powders, tablets, dispersible granules, capsules, cachets, and suppositories.

A solid carrier can be one or more substances, which may also act as diluents, flavoring agents, solubilizers, lubricants, suspending agents, binders, or table disintegrating agents; it can also be an encapsulating material.

5 In powders, the carrier is a finely divided solid, which is in a mixture with the finely divided compound of the invention, or the active component. In tablets, the active component is mixed with the carrier having the necessary binding properties in suitable proportions and compacted in the shape and size desired.

For preparing suppository compositions, a low-melting wax such as a mixture of fatty acid glycerides and cocoa butter is first melted and the active ingredient is  
10 dispersed therein by, for example, stirring. The molten homogeneous mixture is then poured into convenient sized moulds and allowed to cool and solidify.

Suitable carriers are magnesium carbonate, magnesium stearate, talc, lactose, sugar, pectin, dextrin, starch, tragacanth, methyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, a low-melting wax, cocoa butter, and the like.

15 The term composition is also intended to include the formulation of the active component with encapsulating material as a carrier providing a capsule in which the active component (with or without other carriers) is surrounded by a carrier which is thus in association with it. Similarly, cachets are included.

Tablets, powders, cachets, and capsules can be used as solid dosage forms  
20 suitable for oral administration.

Liquid form compositions include solutions, suspensions, and emulsions. For example, sterile water or water propylene glycol solutions of the active compounds may be liquid preparations suitable for parenteral administration. Liquid compositions can also be formulated in solution in aqueous polyethylene glycol  
25 solution.

Aqueous solutions for oral administration can be prepared by dissolving the active component in water and adding suitable colorants, flavoring agents, stabilizers, and thickening agents as desired. Aqueous suspensions for oral use can be made by dispersing the finely divided active component in water together with a viscous  
30 material such as natural synthetic gums, resins, methyl cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, and other suspending agents known to the pharmaceutical formulation art.



Depending on the mode of administration, the pharmaceutical composition will preferably include from 0.05% to 99%w (per cent by weight), more preferably from 0.10 to 50%w, of the compound of the invention, all percentages by weight being based on total composition.

5 A therapeutically effective amount for the practice of the present invention may be determined, by the use of known criteria including the age, weight and response of the individual patient, and interpreted within the context of the disease which is being treated or which is being prevented, by one of ordinary skills in the art.

Within the scope of the invention is the use of any compound of formula I, II,  
10 III, IV or V as defined above for the manufacture of a medicament.

Also within the scope of the invention is the use of any compound of formula I, II, III, IV or V for the manufacture of a medicament for the therapy of pain.

Additionally provided is the use of any compound according to Formula I, II,  
15 III, IV or V for the manufacture of a medicament for the therapy of various pain conditions including, but not limited to: acute pain, chronic pain, neuropathic pain, acute pain, back pain, cancer pain, and visceral pain.

A further aspect of the invention is a method for therapy of a subject suffering from any of the conditions discussed above, whereby an effective amount of a compound according to the formula I, II, III, IV or V above, is administered to a  
20 patient in need of such therapy.

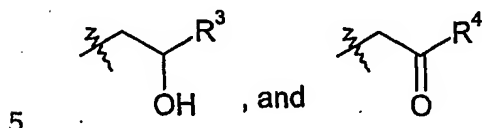
Additionally, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Formula I, II, III, IV or V, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Particularly, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition comprising a  
25 compound of Formula I, II, III, IV or V, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for therapy, more particularly for therapy of pain.

Further, there is provided a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Formula I, II, III, IV or V, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,  
30 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier use in any of the conditions discussed above.

In a further aspect, the present invention provides a method of preparing a compound of the present invention using one or more of the general procedures

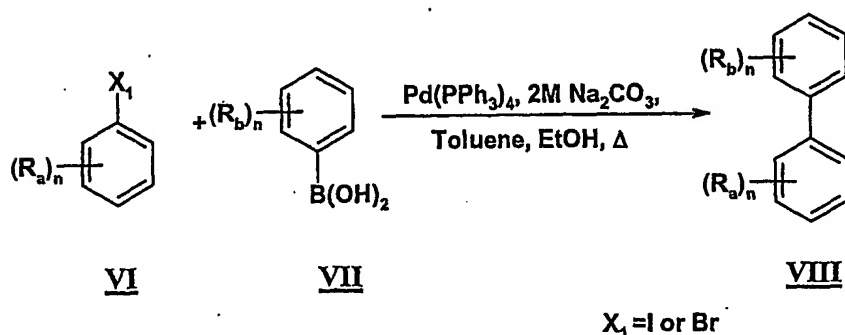
below, wherein  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  are independently selected from  $-H$ , optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl,  $-CF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ , and  $-CN$ ;  $n$  is 1 or 2;  $R_c$ ,  $R_d$ ,  $R_e$  and  $R_f$  are independently selected from  $-H$ ,  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl,



wherein  $R^3$  is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl;

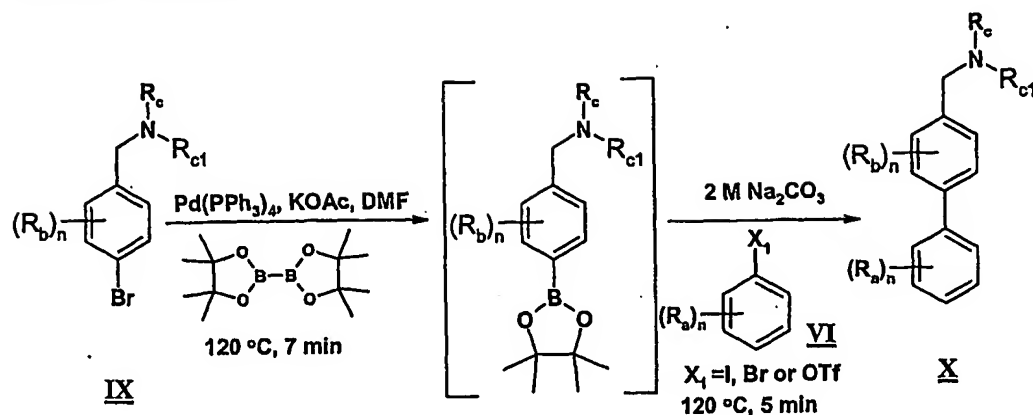
$R^4$  is  $-NHC(=O)-O-R^7$ , wherein  $R^7$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl;  $R_{c1}$  is  $-H$  or  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl; and  $R_g$  is optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl.

#### 10 General Procedure 1:



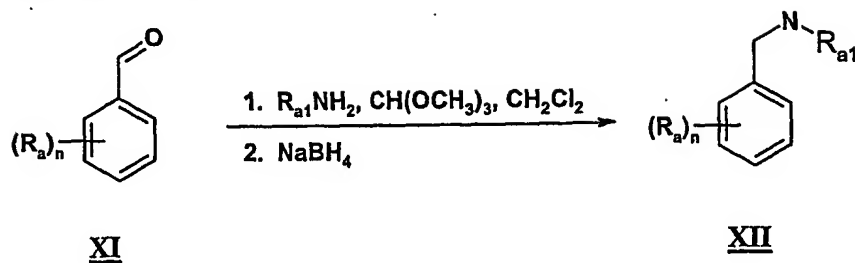
A solution of the aryl boronic acid (VII, 1.5 equiv.) in ethanol (3 mL/mmol boronic acid) was added to a mixture of the aryl halide (VI, 1 equiv.),  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (0.05 equiv.), toluene (9 mL/mmol aryl halide), and 2 M  $Na_2CO_3$  (6.7 equiv.). The resulting mixture was heated at reflux until the aryl halide was consumed (typically 16 h). The reaction was then concentrated *in vacuo*, and the residue was diluted with water. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3x). The combined organic phases were then washed with brine, dried over  $MgSO_4$ , filtered through Celite, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in methanol and allowed to stand overnight. The orange solid which precipitated was filtered, and the supernatant was concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the title compound. The product (VIII) was used for subsequent steps, or purified by silica gel column chromatography when necessary.

## General Procedure 2:



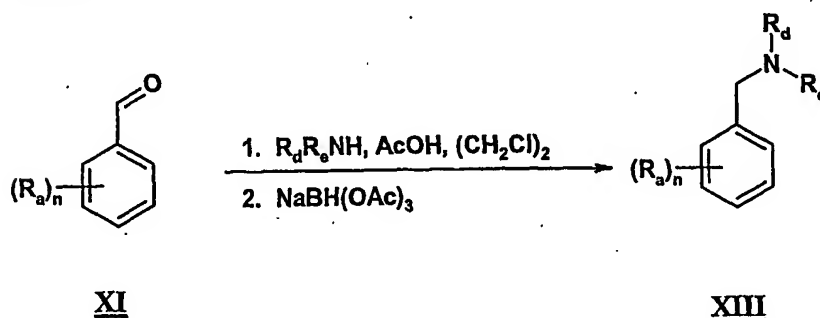
- Solutions of the aryl bromide (IX, 1 equiv.) in DMF (3 mL/mmol aryl
- 5 bromide) and bis(pinacolato)diboron (1.1 equiv.) in DMF (2.7 mL/mmol diboron compound) were added successively to a mixture of Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.03 equiv.) and KOAc (3 equiv.) contained in a microwave process vial. The vial was capped and heated to 120 °C for 7 min using microwave irradiation. The resulting mixture was cooled, and 2 M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (4.9 equiv.) and a solution of the second aryl halide or aryl
- 10 triflate (VI, 1-2 equiv.) in DMF (0.3-0.9 mL/mmol aryl halide/triflate, depending on solubility) were added to the vial through the septum cap. The reaction was heated to 120 °C for an additional 5 minutes using microwave irradiation. The resulting mixture was diluted with water (6 mL/mmol of initial aryl halide used) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (24 mL/mmol of initial aryl halide used), loaded onto an Extube<sup>®</sup> Chem Elut column
- 15 (Varian), and eluted with two column volumes of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The eluant was concentrated, and the residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (12 mL/mmol of initial aryl halide used). MP-TsOH resin was added to the solution, and the mixture was stirred for 2 hours. The resin was removed by filtration and washed with additional CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and MeOH. The filtrate and washings were discarded, and the compound (X) was
- 20 then released from the resin using 2M NH<sub>3</sub> in MeOH. The release solution was concentrated to provide the compound (X).

## General Procedure 3:



A solution of  $\text{R}_{a1}\text{NH}_2$  in MeOH (2 M, 5 equiv.) was added to a mixture of the  
 5 aldehyde (XI, 1 equiv.) and  $\text{CH(OCH}_3)_3$  (10 equiv) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (7.5 mL/mmol  
 aldehyde). The resulting mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature, and then  
 $\text{NaBH}_4$  (2.5 equiv.) was added. When the starting aldehyde/intermediate imine had  
 been completely consumed, the reaction was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was  
 taken into EtOAc (10 mL/mmol aldehyde used) and the product was extracted into 1  
 10 N HCl (3 x 7.5 mL/mmol aldehyde used). The EtOAc layer was discarded, the  
 combined aqueous layers were basicified with 6 N NaOH, and the product was back  
 extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL/mmol aldehyde used). The combined organic  
 phases were then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to provide  
 the compound (XII). The compound (XII) was used for subsequent steps, or purified  
 15 by silica gel column chromatography when necessary.

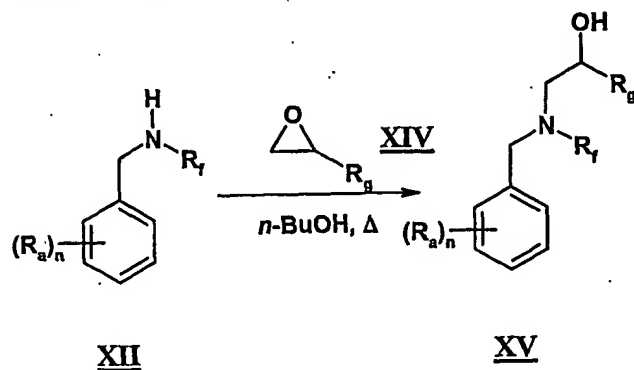
## General Procedure 4:



A solution of the amine ( $\text{R}_d\text{R}_e\text{NH}$ , 1 equiv.) and aldehyde (XI, 1-2 equiv.) in  
 20 AcOH/dichloroethane (5% v/v, 10 mL/mmol amine) was stirred at room temperature  
 overnight.  $\text{NaBH(OAc)}_3$  (2 equiv.) was then added. When the starting  
 aldehyde/intermediate imine/iminium ion had been completely consumed, saturated  
 $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (6 mL/mmol amine) was added. The layers were separated, and the aqueous

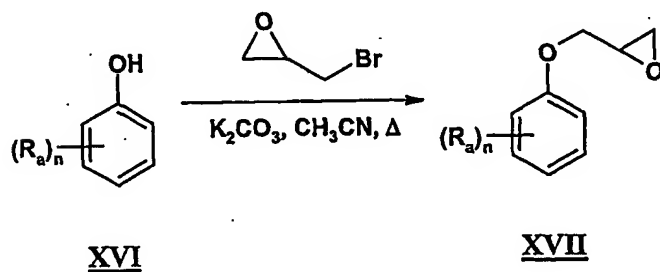
layer was extracted with additional EtOAc (3 x 12 mL/mmol amine). The combined organic phases were then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the compound (XIII). The compound (XIII) was used for subsequent steps, or purified by silica gel column chromatography or reverse phase HPLC when necessary.

#### General Procedure 5:



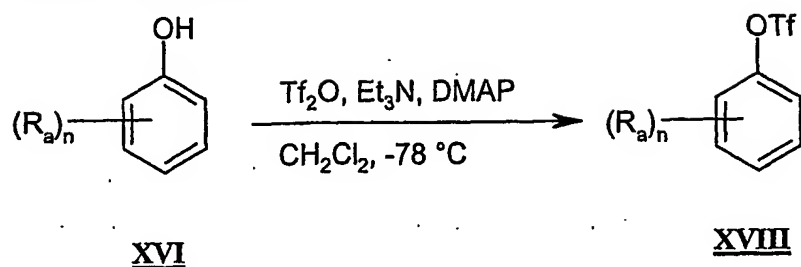
- 10 A solution of the amine (XII, 1 equiv.) and epoxide (XIV, 1 equiv.) in *n*-BuOH (6 mL/mmol amine) was heated at the temperature specified until the starting materials were consumed. The reaction was concentrated *in vacuo*, and the residue was purified by reverse phase HPLC to provide the compound (XV).

#### 15 General Procedure 6:



- 20 A suspension of the phenol (XVI, 1 equiv.), epibromohydrin (5 equiv.), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (5 equiv.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>CN (8 mL/mmol phenol) was heated at 70 °C until the starting phenol was completely consumed (typically 16 h). The reaction mixture was filtered to remove solids which were then washed with additional CH<sub>3</sub>CN. The filtrate was concentrated to provide the compound (XVII).

## General Procedure 7:



5        Triethylamine (2.2 equiv.), followed by triflic anhydride (1.1 equiv.), was added dropwise to a solution of the phenol (XVI, 1 equiv.) and DMAP (0.1 equiv.) in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL/mmol phenol) maintained at  $-78^\circ C$ . The reaction was allowed to slowly warm to room temperature and stirred until the starting phenol was completely consumed (typically 16 h). Once the reaction was complete, water was added (10  
10    mL/mmol phenol), the layers were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2 x 10 mL/mmol phenol). The combined organic phases were then dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. Silica gel column chromatography on the organic phase residue provided the compound (XVIII).

15        The compounds of the invention were found to be active towards  $CB_1/CB_2$  receptors in warm-blooded animal, e.g., human. Particularly the compounds of the invention have been found to be effective  $CB_1/CB_2$  receptor agonists. *In vitro* assays, *infra*, demonstrated these surprising activities. In these *in vitro* assays, a compound is tested for their activity toward  $CB_1/CB_2$  receptors and the dissociation constant ( $K_i$ ) is obtained to determine the selective activity for a particular compound towards  
20     $CB_1/CB_2$  receptors by measuring  $IC_{50}$  of the compound. In the current context,  $IC_{50}$  generally refers to the concentration of the compound at which 50% displacement of a standard radioactive  $CB_1/CB_2$  receptor ligand has been observed. Generally, a lower  $K_i$  for a particular compound towards  $CB_1/CB_2$  receptors means that the particular compound is a stronger ligand towards the  $CB_1/CB_2$  receptors. As a result,  
25    compounds with relatively low  $K_i$  towards  $CB_1/CB_2$  receptors are relatively strong  $CB_1/CB_2$  receptor ligands or strong  $CB_1/CB_2$  receptor agonists.

## Biological Evaluation

### hCB<sub>1</sub> and hCB<sub>2</sub> receptor binding

Human CB<sub>1</sub> receptor from Receptor Biology (hCB<sub>1</sub>) or human CB<sub>2</sub> receptor from BioSignal (hCB<sub>2</sub>) membranes are thawed at 37 °C, passed 3 times through a 25-gauge blunt-end needle, diluted in the cannabinoid binding buffer (50 mM Tris, 2.5 mM EDTA, 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, and 0.5 mg/mL BSA fatty acid free, pH 7.4) and aliquots containing the appropriate amount of protein are distributed in 96-well plates. The IC<sub>50</sub> of the compounds of the invention at hCB<sub>1</sub> and hCB<sub>2</sub> are evaluated from 10-point dose-response curves done with <sup>3</sup>H-CP55,940 at 20000 to 25000 dpm per well (0.17-0.21 nM) in a final volume of 300 µl. The total and non-specific binding are determined in the absence and presence of 0.2 µM of HU210 respectively. The plates are vortexed and incubated for 60 minutes at room temperature, filtered through Unifilters GF/B (presoaked in 0.1% polyethyleneimine) with the Tomtec or Packard harvester using 3 mL of wash buffer (50 mM Tris, 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.5 mg BSA pH 7.0). The filters are dried for 1 hour at 55 °C. The radioactivity (cpm) is counted in a TopCount (Packard) after adding 65 µl/well of MS-20 scintillation liquid.

Based on the above assays, the dissociation constant (K<sub>i</sub>) for a particular compound of the invention towards a particular receptor is determined using the following equation:

$$K_i = IC_{50} / (1 + [rad] / K_d),$$

Wherein IC<sub>50</sub> is the concentration of the compound of the invention at which 50% displacement has been observed;

[rad] is a standard or reference radioactive ligand concentration at that moment; and

K<sub>d</sub> is the dissociation constant of the radioactive ligand towards the particular receptor.

Biological data for certain compounds of the invention are listed in Table 1 below.

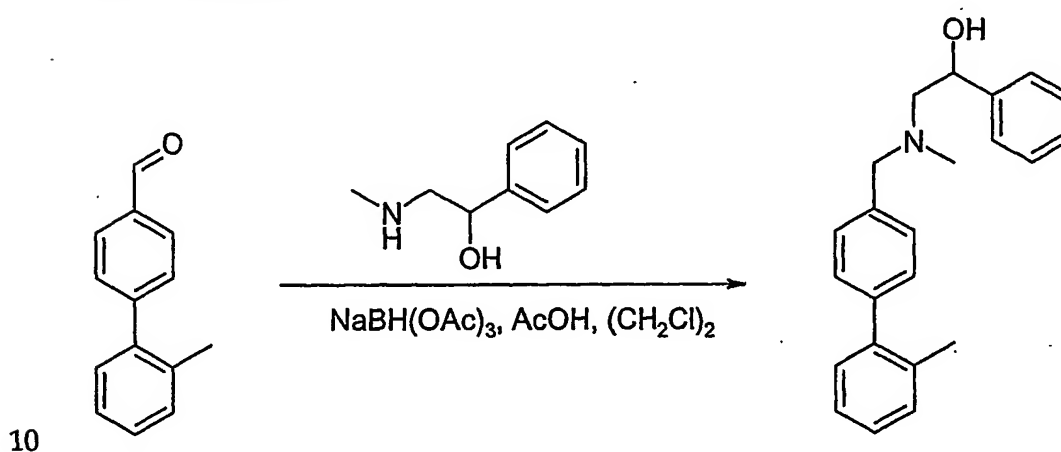
Table 1

Compound No.	CB <sub>2</sub> (K <sub>i</sub> , nM)	CB <sub>1</sub> (K <sub>i</sub> , nM)
1-132	15-2800	50-5000

**EXAMPLES**

The invention will further be described in more detail by the following Examples which describe methods whereby compounds of the present invention may be prepared, purified, analyzed and biologically tested, and which are not to be construed as limiting the invention.

**Example 1:  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[(2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**

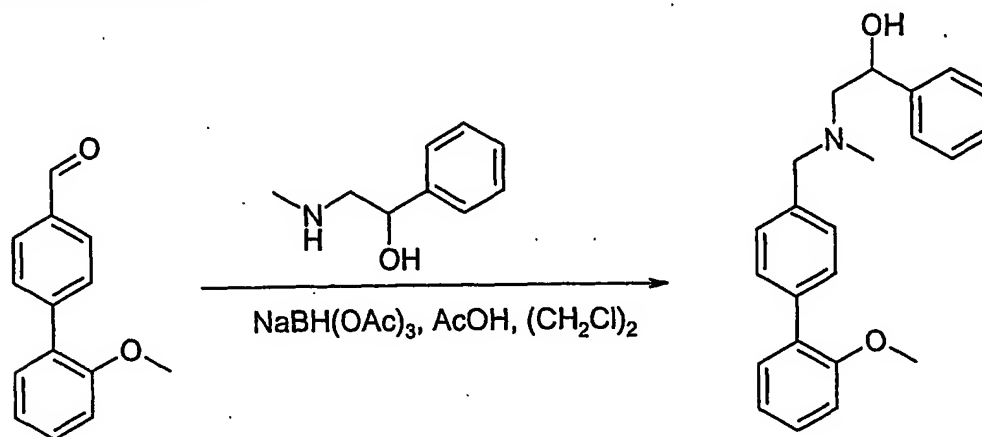


Following General Procedure 4, 2'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.250 g, 1.28 mmol),  $\alpha$ -[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.363 g, 2.40 mmol), and NaBH(OAc)<sub>3</sub> (0.506 g, 2.40 mmol) were combined. When the starting imine intermediate had been completely consumed, 1 N NaOH (10 mL/mmol amine) was added. The layers were then filtered through a Hydromatrix® column and the product was eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-100% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.052 g, 11%) as its HCO<sub>2</sub>H salt. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.39-7.23 (br m, 13H), 4.83 (dd, *J*=3.8 Hz, *J*=10.2 Hz, 1H), 3.94-3.85 (overlapping br s at 3.94 and d at 3.87, *J*=13.2 Hz, 2H), 3.68 (d, *J*=12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (dd, *J*=10.0 Hz, *J*=12.4 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (dd, *J*=3.6 Hz, *J*=12.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) (*M*+*H*)<sup>+</sup> = 332. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO + 0.30 CH<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 81.06; H, 7.47; N, 4.06. Found: C, 81.40; H, 7.76; N, 4.18.

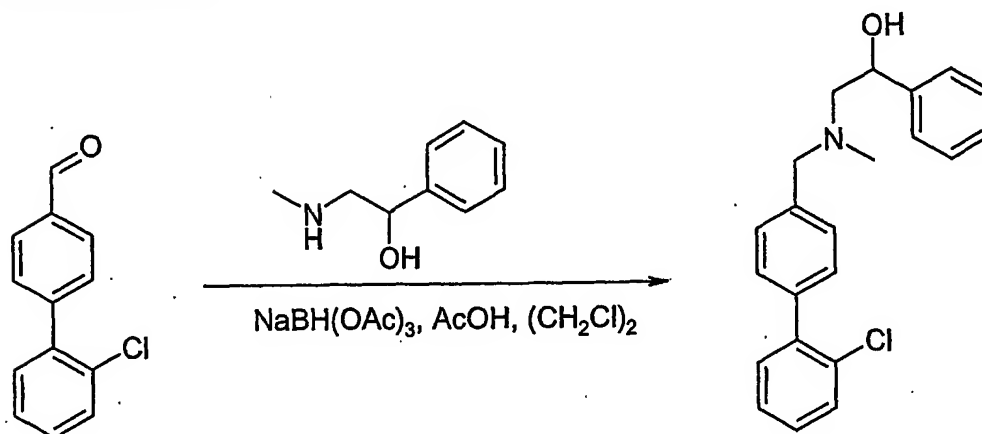


**Example 2:  $\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



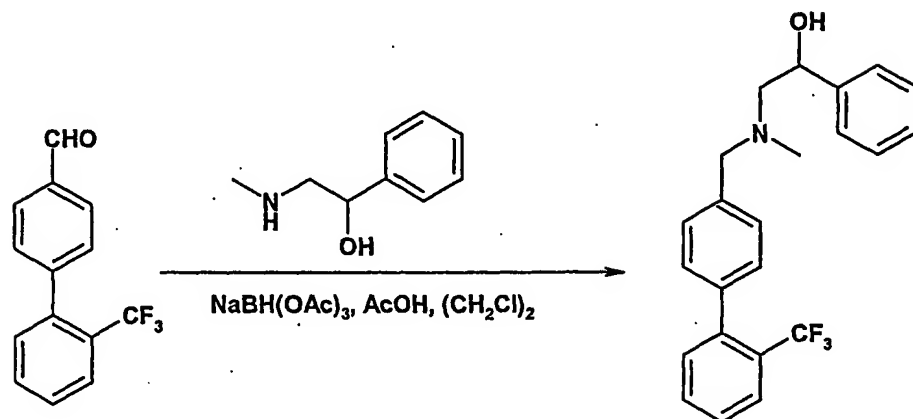
Following General Procedure 4, 2'-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.250 g, 1.18 mmol),  $\alpha$ -[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.363 g, 2.40 mmol), and  $\text{NaBH}(\text{OAc})_3$  (0.506 g, 2.40 mmol) were combined. When the starting imine intermediate had been completely consumed, 1 N NaOH (10 mL/mmol amine) was added. The layers were then filtered through a Hydromatrix® column and the product was eluted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The organic phase was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-100%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) to provide the title compound (0.048 g, 10%) as its  $\text{HCO}_2\text{H}$  salt. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.54 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.40-7.25 (br m, 9H), 7.05-6.98 (m, 2H), 4.88 (dd,  $J=2.6$  Hz,  $J=10.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.55 (br s, 1H), 3.91 (d,  $J=13.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.81-3.74 (overlapping s at 3.81 and d at 3.75,  $J=13.2$  Hz, 4H), 2.79 (dd,  $J=10.0$  Hz,  $J=13.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.68 (dd,  $J=3.2$  Hz,  $J=12.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 348$ . Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2 + 0.40 \text{CH}_2\text{O}_2$ : C, 76.82; H, 7.11; N, 3.83. Found: C, 76.98; H, 7.17; N, 3.77.

**Example 3:  $\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



Following General Procedure 4, 2'-chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde  
 5 (0.250 g, 1.16 mmol),  $\alpha$ -[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.363 g, 2.40 mmol), and  $\text{NaBH}(\text{OAc})_3$  (0.506 g, 2.40 mmol) were combined. When the starting imine intermediate had been completely consumed, 1 N NaOH (10 mL/mmol amine) was added. The layers were then filtered through a Hydromatix® column and the product was eluted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The organic phase was concentrated *in vacuo* and  
 10 purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-100%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) to provide the title compound (0.050 g, 11%) as its  $\text{HCO}_2\text{H}$  salt. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.49-7.26 (br m, 13H), 4.85 (dd,  $J=3.2$  Hz,  $J=10.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.18 (br s, 1H), 3.89 (d,  $J=12.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.72 (d,  $J=13.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.75 (dd,  $J=10.4$  Hz,  $J=12.8$   
 15 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (dd,  $J=3.2$  Hz,  $J=12.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 352$ . Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{NOCl} + 0.30 \text{CH}_2\text{O}_2$ : C, 73.25; H, 6.23; N, 3.83. Found: C, 73.44; H, 6.31; N, 3.86.

**Example 4:  $\alpha$ -[Methyl-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



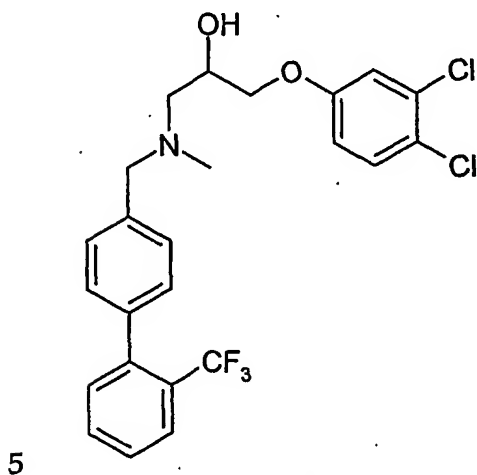
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Following General Procedure 4, 2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.500 g, 2.00 mmol),  $\alpha$ -[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.604 g, 4.00 mmol), and  $\text{NaBH}(\text{OAc})_3$  (0.844 g, 4.00 mmol) were combined. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (3:7 Hexanes:EtOAc) to provide the title compound.  $\text{HCl}$  in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (2 mL of 1M, 2.00 mmol) was added to the compound and the resulting solid was filtered and washed with additional  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  to provide the  $\text{HCl}$  salt (0.558 g, 66%). Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  7.81 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.56 (m, 4H), 7.52-7.32 (m, 8H), 5.15-5.09 (m, 1H), 4.77 (br d,  $J=14.0$  Hz, 0.5H), 4.50 ( $\text{AB}_q$ , 1H), 4.33 (br d,  $J=12.0$  Hz, 0.5H), 3.46-3.15 (m, 2H), 3.08 (s, 1.5H), 2.92 (s, 1.5H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 386$ . Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{22}\text{F}_3\text{NO}+1.1 \text{ HCl}$ : C, 64.92; H, 5.47; N, 3.29. Found: C, 65.16; H, 5.63; N, 3.37.

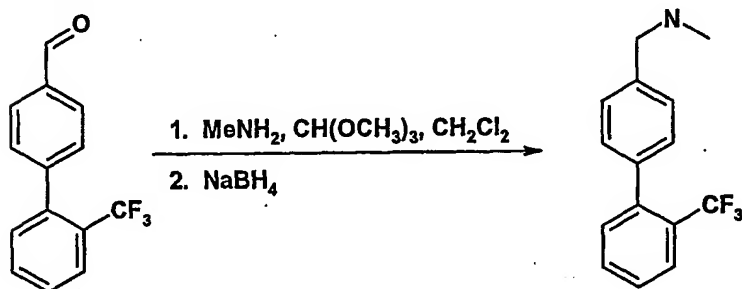
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**Example 5: 1-(3,4-Dichlorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol**

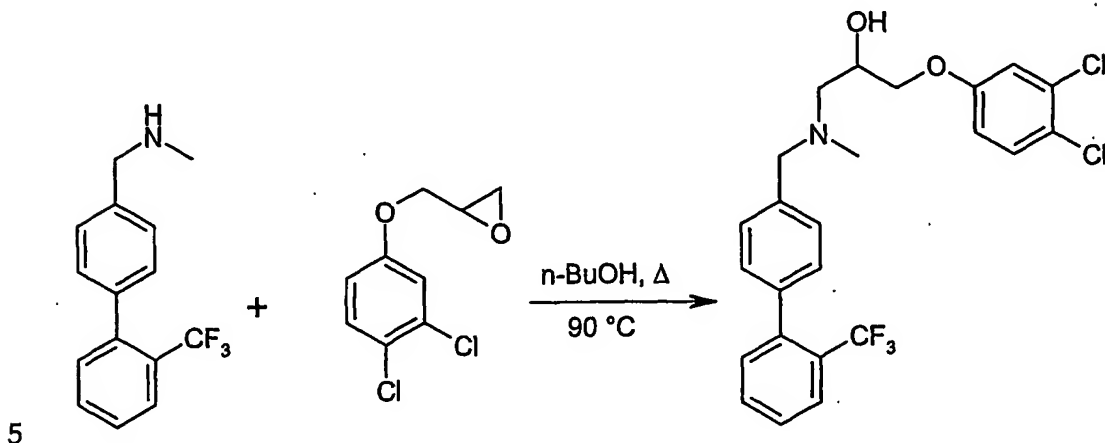


**Compound 5A: N-Methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine**



Following General Procedure 3, 2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.400 g, 1.60 mmol) was converted to the title compound (0.297 g, 70%). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>90%) to be used in subsequent steps. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.75 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.28 (m, 5H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.13 (br s, 1H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 266.

**Compound 5b: 1-(3,4-Dichlorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol**

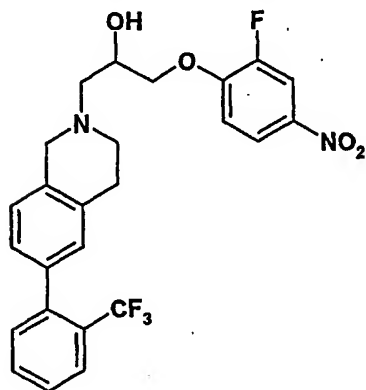


Following General Procedure 5, *N*-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine (0.133 g, 0.40 mmol) and 2-[(3,4-dichlorophenoxy)methyl]oxirane (0.088 g, 0.40 mmol) were combined and heated at 50°C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 30-70% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.026 g, 11%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/ CH<sub>3</sub>CN to produce a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.77 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J*=7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.51 (m, 3H), 7.43 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.31 (overlapping s at 7.33 and d at 7.32, *J*=8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, *J*=2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (dd, *J*=2.8 Hz, *J*=8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (br s, 1H), 4.36 (br s, 2H), 4.07 (br s, 1H), 3.89 (t, *J*=8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.51-3.03 (br s at 3.36 and br s at 3.16, 2H), 2.94 (br s, 3H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 484. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> + 0.3 H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.9 TFA: C, 52.31; H, 4.00; N, 2.36. Found: C, 52.32; H, 3.93; N, 2.24.

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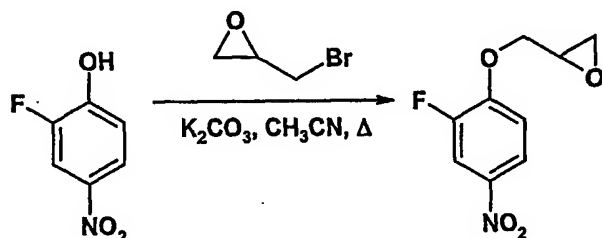
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**Example 6:  $\alpha$ -[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-3,4-dihydro-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol**



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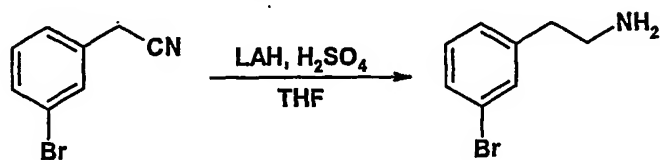
**Compound 6a: 2-[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]oxirane**



Following General Procedure 6, 2-fluoro-4-nitrophenol (0.471 g, 3.00 mmol) was converted to the title compound (0.635 g, 99%). The crude compound was used for subsequent steps.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.06 (ddd,  $J=1.2$  Hz,  $J=2.4$  Hz,  $J=8.8$  Hz, 1H), 8.00 (dd,  $J=2.4$  Hz,  $J=10.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd,  $J=8.0$  Hz,  $J=9.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.48 (dd,  $J=2.4$  Hz,  $J=11.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.11 (dd,  $J=6.0$  Hz,  $J=11.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.45-3.39 (m, 1H), 2.97 (dd,  $J=4.0$  Hz,  $J=4.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.81 (dd,  $J=2.8$  Hz,  $J=4.8$  Hz, 1H).

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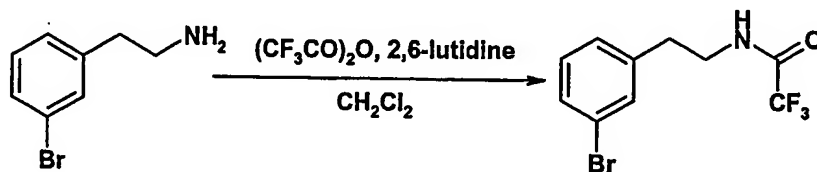
**Compound 6b: 3-Bromobenzeneethanamine**



A suspension of  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  (1.24 g, 32.7 mmol) in dry THF (50 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Concentrated  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (1.6 g, 16.3 mmol) was added dropwise, and the resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. A solution of 3-bromobenzeneacetonitrile (4.01 g, 20.4 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added dropwise, and the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature when the addition was complete. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, and then cooled back to 0 °C and quenched by the addition of a 1:1 THF: $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  mixture (5 mL).  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  was added (20 mL), followed by a 3.6 M solution of NaOH (10 mL). The mixture was filtered through Celite, and the solids were washed well with additional  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ . The organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the title compound (3.91 g, 96%). The crude compound was used in subsequent steps.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.38-7.30 (overlapping s at 7.35 and d,  $J=7.2$  Hz for d, 2H), 7.20-7.10 (m, 2H), 2.96 (t,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.72 (t,  $J=6.4$  Hz, 2H), 1.35 (br s, 2H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 200/202$ .

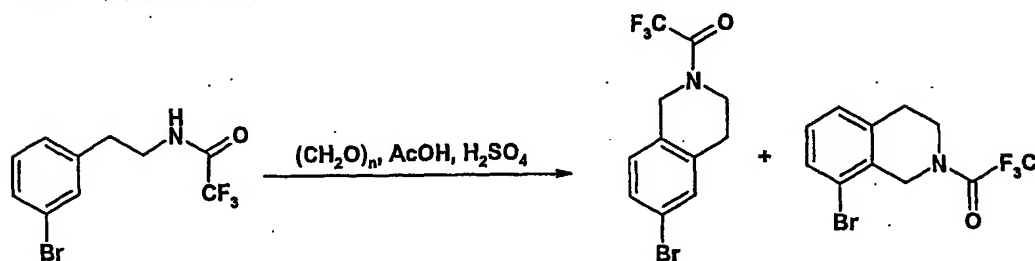
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**Compound 6c: *N*-[2-(3-Bromophenyl)ethyl]-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide**



A mixture of 3-bromobenzeneethanamine (2.00 g, 10.0 mmol) and 2,6-lutidine (1.2 mL, 10.3 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (40 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Trifluoroacetic anhydride (1.4 mL, 9.9 mmol) was added dropwise, and the reaction was then warmed to room temperature and allowed to stir for 16 h. Water (40 mL) was added to the reaction, the phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic phases were washed successively with 1 M HCl (40 mL) and saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (40 mL), and then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the title compound (2.93 g, 100%). The crude compound was used in subsequent steps.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.40 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.21 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.33 (br s, 1H), 3.59 (q,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.87 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 2H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 296/298$ .

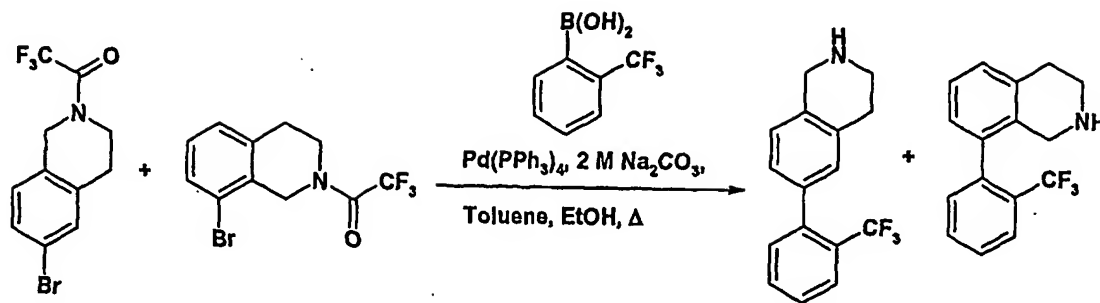
5 **Compound 6d: 6-Bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-2-(trifluoroacetyl)isoquinoline and 8-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-2-(trifluoroacetyl)isoquinoline**



A mixture of glacial acetic acid (22.5 mL) and concentrated sulfuric acid (15  
 10 mL) was added to a mixture of *N*-[2-(3-bromophenyl)ethyl]-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide (4.06 g, 13.7 mmol) and paraformaldehyde (0.659 g, 22.0 mmol equiv. of formaldehyde). The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 16 h, and then poured into 300 mL of cold water. The aqueous solution was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$   
 15 (75 mL) and water (2 x 150 mL). The organic phase was then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography (4:1 Hexanes:EtOAc) to provide a mixture of the title compounds (3.31 g, 78%). Due to hindered rotation about the amide bond, rotamers were observed in the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.46 (dd,  $J=2.0$  Hz,  $J=6.8$   
 20 Hz, 0.33H), 7.38-7.31 (m, 1.33H), 7.15-7.09 (m, 0.67H), 7.05-6.98 (m, 0.67H), 4.75, 4.73, 4.69 (3 x s, 2H), 3.90-3.80 (m, 2H), 3.00-2.90 (m, 2H). MS (ESI) ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$  = 308/310.

**Compound 6e: 1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]isoquinoline and**  
 25 **1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-8-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]isoquinoline**





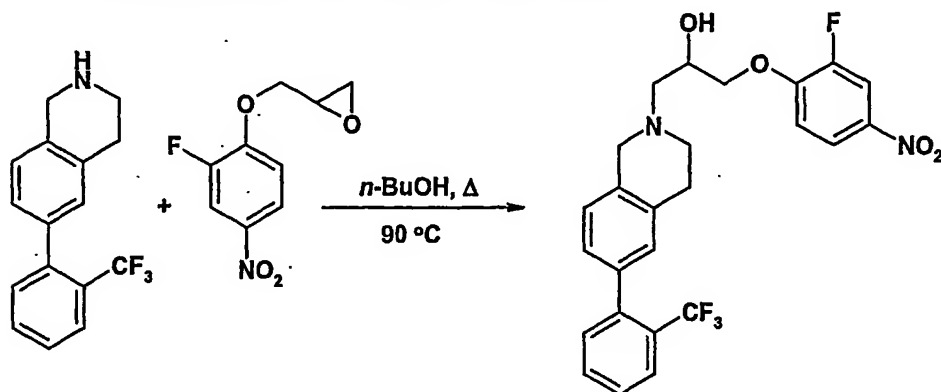
Following General Procedure 1, a mixture of 6-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-2-(trifluoroacetyl)isoquinoline and 8-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-2-(trifluoroacetyl)-  
 5 isoquinoline (0.137 g, 0.446 mmol) was reacted with [2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-boronic acid (0.127 g, 0.668 mmol) to provide a mixture of the title compounds. Purification by column chromatography (4:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH + 0.1% conc. NH<sub>3</sub>) provided 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-8-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]isoquinoline (0.0380 g, 31%) and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]isoquinoline (0.0810 g,  
 10 65%).

1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-8-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]isoquinoline: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.77 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (br s, 1H), 3.72 (half of br AB<sub>q</sub>, *J*=16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (half of br AB<sub>q</sub>,  
 15 *J*=15.6 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (br s, 2H), 2.97 (br s, 2H). MS (ESI) (*M*+H)<sup>+</sup> = 278.  
 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]isoquinoline: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.74 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J*=6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (br s, 2H), 3.87 (br s, 1H), 3.23 (br s, 2H), 2.88 (br s, 2H). MS (ESI) (*M*+H)<sup>+</sup> = 278.

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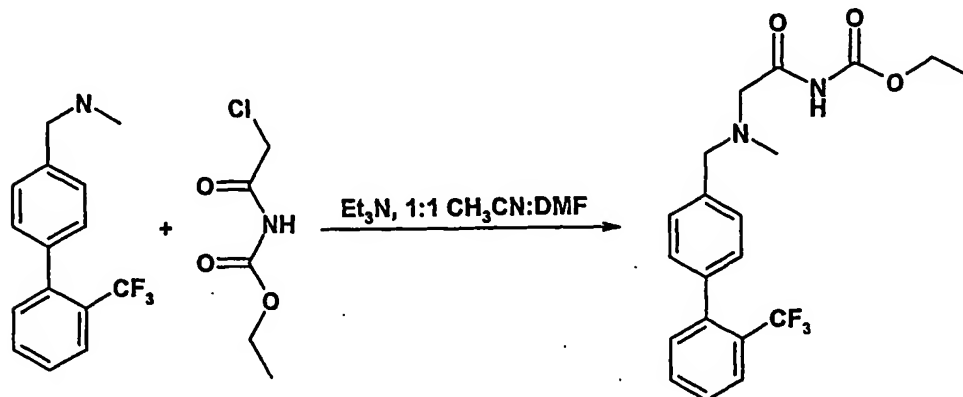
**Compound 6f:**  $\alpha$ -[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-3,4-dihydro-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol



Following General Procedure 5, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6-[2-

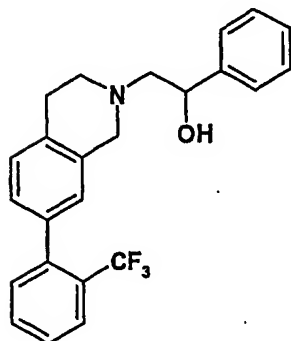
- 5 (trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-isoquinoline (0.0256 g, 0.0923 mmol) and 2-[(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-oxirane (0.0197 g, 0.0924 mmol) were combined and heated at 90 °C for 16 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-60% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.0222 g, 40%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile to produce a white, hygroscopic
- 10 solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  8.15-8.11 (m, 1H), 8.08 (dd, *J*=2.8 Hz, *J*=11.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.24 (m, 5H), 4.82-4.50 (br m, 3H), 4.29 (d, *J*=4.8 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (br s, 1H), 3.62-3.52 (m, 3H), 3.38-3.22 (br m, 2H). MS (ESI) (*M*+H)<sup>+</sup> = 491. Anal.
- 15 Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>+1.1 TFA+0.7 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 51.98; H, 3.93; N, 4.46. Found: C, 52.02; H, 3.93; N, 4.42.

**Example 7: Ethyl [(methyl-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-acetyl]carbamate**



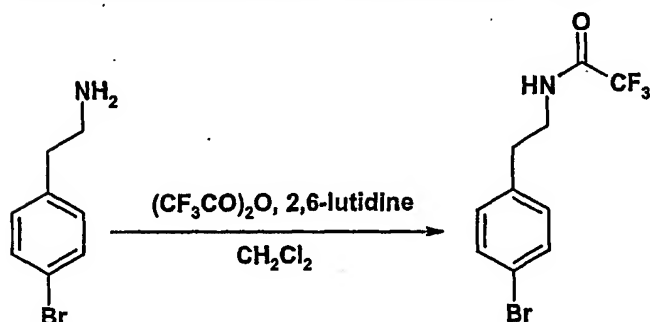
A mixture of N-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine  
 5 (0.0781 g, 0.294 mmol), ethyl N-(chloroacetyl)carbamate (0.0487 g, 0.294 mmol),  
 and triethylamine (0.041 mL, 0.29 mmol) in 1:1 CH<sub>3</sub>CN:DMF (3 mL) was stirred at  
 room temperature for 24 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated, and the residue  
 was partitioned between CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL). The phases were separated,  
 and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 5 mL). The combined organic  
 10 phases were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude  
 product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-60% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to  
 provide the title compound (0.0992 g, 86%) as its TFA salt. This material was  
 lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 7.81 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68  
 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz,  
 15 2H), 7.38 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.70-4.30 (br, 3H), 4.24 (q, *J*=7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.95 (s, 3H),  
 1.31 (t, *J*=7.2 Hz, 3H). MS (ESI) (*M*+H)<sup>+</sup> = 395. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+1.3  
 TFA+0.4 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 49.37; H, 4.23; N, 5.09. Found: C, 49.45; H, 4.23; N, 5.05.

**Example 8: 3,4-Dihydro- $\alpha$ -phenyl-7-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol**



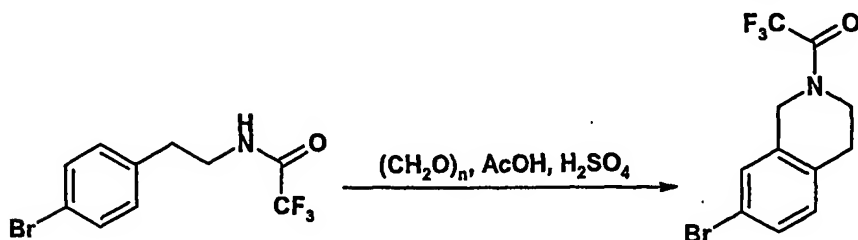
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**Compound 8a: *N*-[2-(4-Bromophenyl)ethyl]-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide**

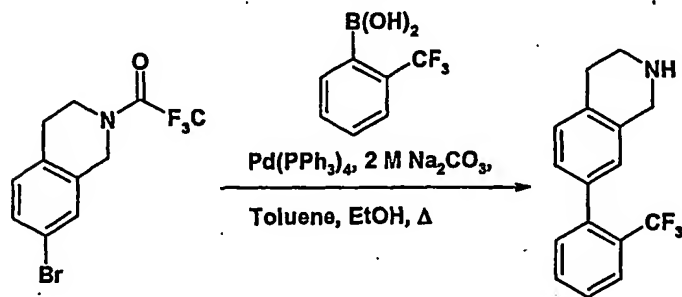


A mixture of 4-bromobenzylamine (1.23 g, 6.17 mmol) and 2,6-lutidine (0.76 mL, 6.5 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (25 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Trifluoroacetic anhydride (0.87 mL, 6.2 mmol) was added dropwise, and the reaction was then warmed to room temperature and allowed to stir for 16 h. Water (25 mL) was added to the reaction, the phases were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic phases were washed successively with 1 M HCl (25 mL) and saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (25 mL), and then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the title compound (1.79 g, 98%). The crude compound was used in subsequent steps.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.49-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.10-7.06 (m, 2H), 6.27 (br s, 1H), 3.61 (q,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.86 (t,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 2H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 296/298$ .

20

**Compound 8b: 7-Bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-2-(trifluoroacetyl)isoquinoline**

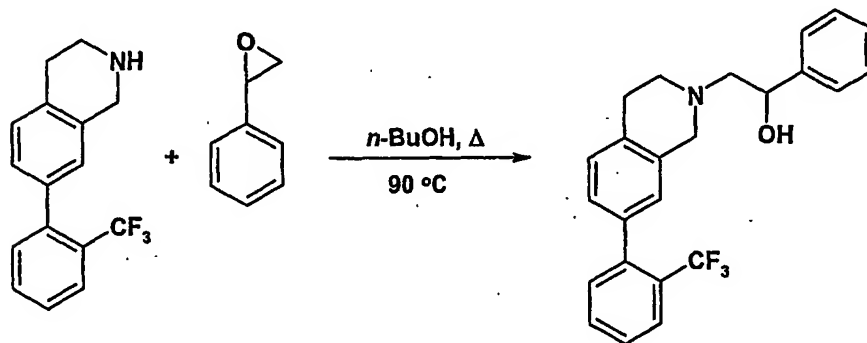
A mixture of glacial acetic acid (5.1 mL) and concentrated sulfuric acid (3.4 mL) was added to a mixture of *N*-[2-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl]-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide (0.903 g, 3.05 mmol) and paraformaldehyde (0.147 g, 4.88 mmol equiv. of formaldehyde). The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 20 h, and then poured into 65 mL of cold water. The aqueous solution was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 25 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (16 mL) and water (2 x 35 mL), and then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography (4:1 Hexanes:EtOAc) to provide the title compound (0.885 g, 94%) as a colorless oil. Due to hindered rotation about the amide bond, rotamers were observed in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.38-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.06 (d, *J*=9.6 Hz, 0.36H), 7.04 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 0.64H), 4.76 (s, 1.3H), 4.71 (s, 0.7H), 3.88 (t, *J*=6.4 Hz, 0.7H), 3.84 (t, *J*=6.4 Hz, 1.3H), 2.91 (t, *J*=5.6 Hz, 1.3H), 2.90 (t, *J*=6.4 Hz, 0.7H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 308/310.

**Compound 8c: 1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-7-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]isoquinoline**

Following General Procedure 1, 7-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-2-(trifluoroacetyl)isoquinoline (0.468 g, 1.52 mmol) was reacted with [2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]boronic acid (0.433 g, 2.28 mmol) to provide the title compound (0.387 g, 92%) following purification by column chromatography (85:15 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH + 0.1% conc. NH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.74 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54

(t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.12 (collapsed AB<sub>q</sub>, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 4.05 (s, 2H), 3.20 (t,  $J=5.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.86 (t,  $J=6.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.43 (br s, 1H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 278.

5 **Compound 8d: 3,4-Dihydro- $\alpha$ -phenyl-7-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1H)-isoquinolineethanol**



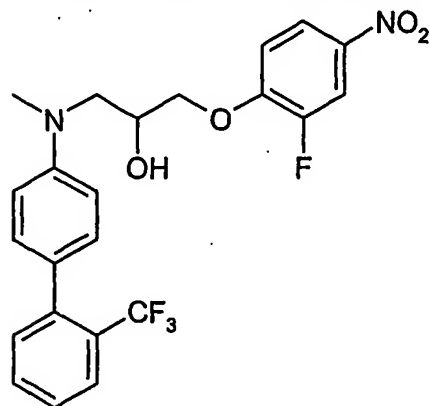
Following General Procedure 5, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-7-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-isoquinoline (0.0509 g, 0.184 mmol) and 2-(phenyl)oxirane (0.021 mL, 0.0877 mmol) were combined and heated at 90 °C for 14 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-60% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.0138 g, 15%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile to produce a white, hygroscopic solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):

15  $\delta$  7.80 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.67 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.32 (m, 5H), 7.29 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.14 (br m, 1H), 5.25 (dd,  $J=3.6$  Hz,  $J=10.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.88-4.43 (br m, 2H), 4.13-3.90 (br m, 1H), 3.62-3.14 (br m, 5H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 398. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO+1.1 TFA: C, 60.19; H, 4.45; N, 2.68. Found: C, 60.16; H, 4.38; N, 2.61.

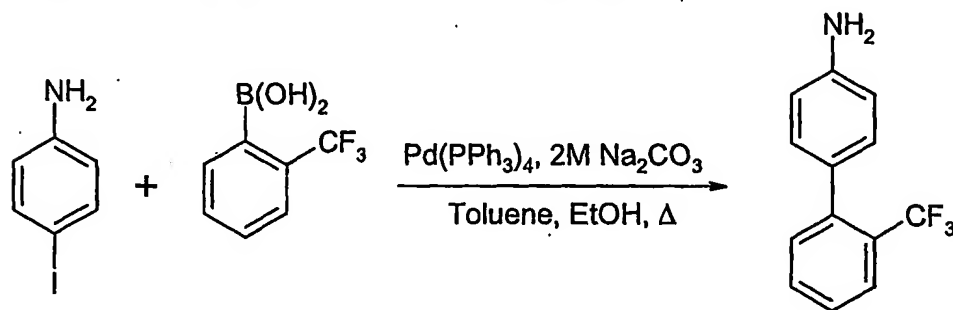
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**Example 9: 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]amino]-2-propanol**



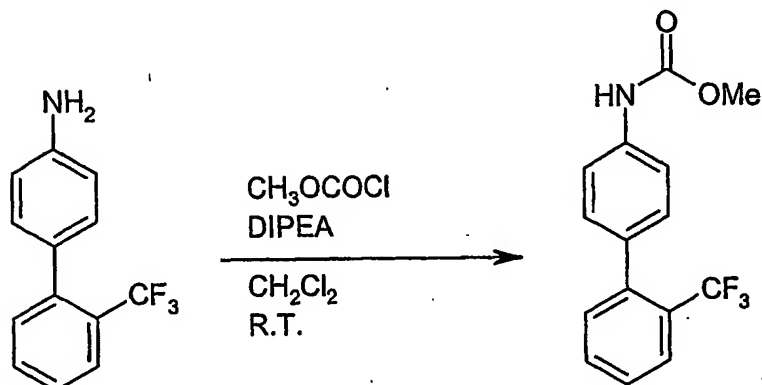
**Compound 9a: 2'-(Trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-amine**



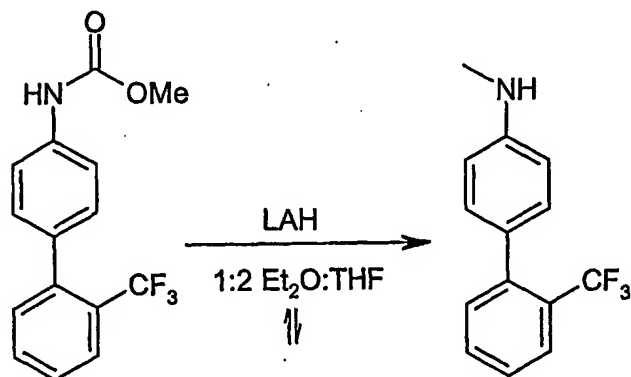
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Following General Procedure 1, 4-iodoaniline (1.00 g, 4.57 mmol), 2-(trifluoromethyl)phenylboronic acid (1.302 g, 6.86 mmol),  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (0.265 g, 0.23 mmol), and 2 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (16 mL, 32 mmol) were combined. Following the usual work-up, silica gel column chromatography (9:1 Hexanes:EtOAc) provided the title compound (0.476 g, 44%).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.71 (dd,  $J=0.4$  Hz,  $J=7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t,  $J=7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dd,  $J=0.4$  Hz,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J=8.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.73-6.69 (m, 2H), 3.73 (br s, 2H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 238$ .

15

**Compound 9b: Methyl [2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]carbamate**

To a solution of 2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-amine (0.476 g, 2.01 mmol) and DIPEA (0.45 mL, 2.61 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4.5 mL) maintained at 0 °C was added methylchloroformate (0.17 mL, 2.21 mmol). The reaction was allowed to slowly warm to room temperature, stirred overnight, diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL), and washed with 1 N HCl (2 x 20 mL) and brine (1 x 20 mL). The organic layer was then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the title compound (0.563 g, 95%) as a beige solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.74 (dd, *J*=0.6 Hz, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.42 (overlapping d and t, *J*=8.0 Hz for d and *J*=8.4 Hz for t, 3H), 7.32 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (br s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) (*M*+H)<sup>+</sup> = 296.

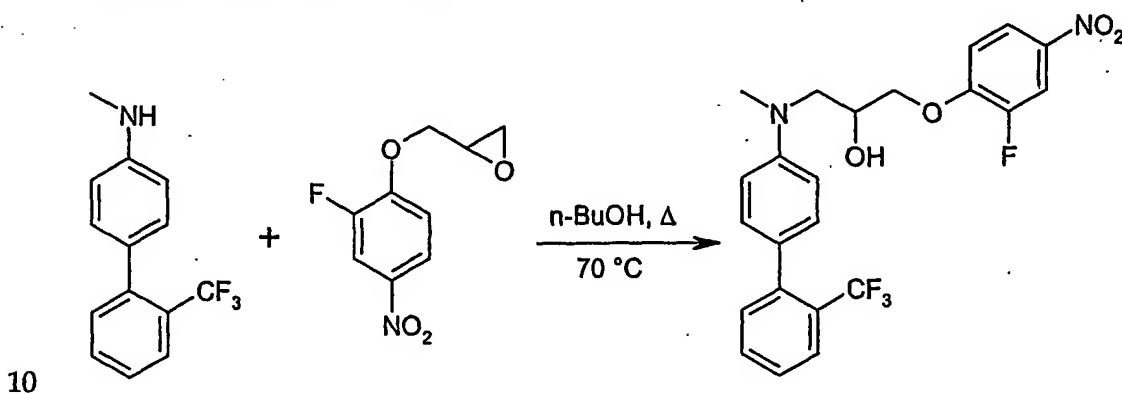
**Compound 9c: N-Methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-amine**

To a solution of methyl [2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]carbamate (0.554 g, 1.88 mmol) in 1:2 dry Et<sub>2</sub>O:THF (30 mL) was added LAH in Et<sub>2</sub>O (2.82 mL, 2.82 mmol) dropwise. The reaction was refluxed for 4 hrs, cooled down to room



temperature, diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (40 mL), and quenched with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O (2 g). The reaction mixture was stirred until the solution turned clear, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the title compound (0.409 g, 87%) as a yellow oil. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.71 (d, *J*=8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J*=7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J*=8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (d, *J*=8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.88 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 252.

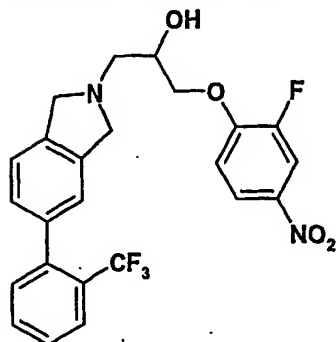
**Compound 9d: 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]amino]-2-propanol**



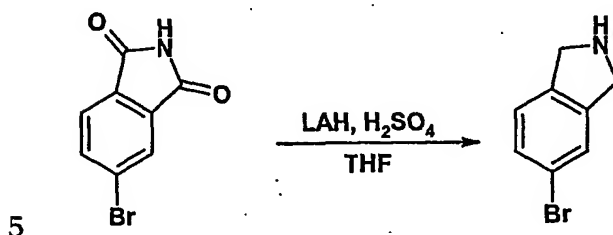
Following General Procedure 5, N-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-amine (0.100 g, 0.40 mmol) and 2-[(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]oxirane (0.085 g, 0.33 mmol) were combined and heated at 70 °C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 40-80% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.077 g, 42%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>3</sub>CN to produce a yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 8.07-8.02 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J*=7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.49 (m, 4H), 7.03 (br d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.24-4.14 (m, 3H), 3.79 (dd, *J*=5.0 Hz, *J*=14.2 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (dd, *J*=7.2 Hz, *J*=14.4 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 465. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> + 0.2 H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.3 TFA: C, 56.44; H, 4.15; N, 5.58. Found: C, 56.41; H, 4.05; N, 5.53.

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**Example 10:  $\alpha$ -[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-1,3-dihydro-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2H-isoindole-2-ethanol**



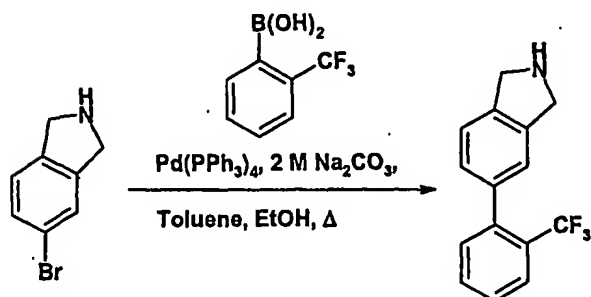
**Compound 10a: 5-Bromo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole**



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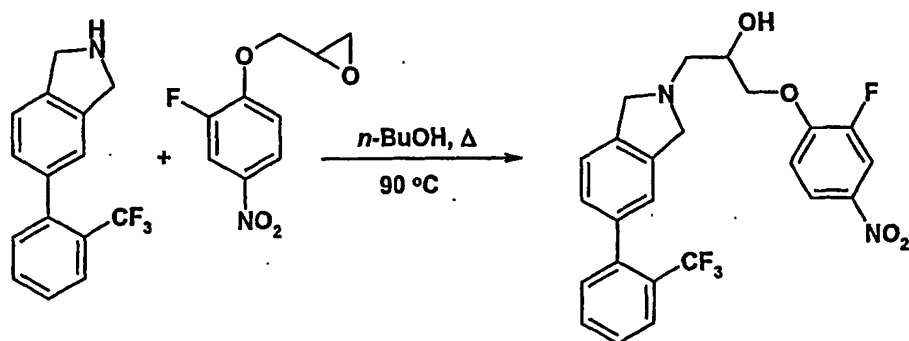
A solution of  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  (8.8 mL of 1 M solution in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , 8.8 mmol) in dry THF (13 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. Concentrated  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (0.42 g, 4.3 mmol) was added dropwise, and the resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. 5-Bromo-1H-isoindole-1,3(2H)-dione (0.409 g, 1.81 mmol) was added in portions over 15 minutes, and the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature when the addition was complete. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2.5h, and then cooled back to 0 °C and quenched by the addition of MeOH (2 mL).  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  was added (50 mL), followed by  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . The mixture was stirred vigorously until the organic layer was clear. The mixture was then filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by column chromatography (4:1  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :MeOH + 0.1% conc.  $\text{NH}_3$ ) provided the title compound (0.128 g, 36%).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.38 (s 1H), 7.33 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.21 (s, 2H), 4.17 (s, 2H), 2.09 (s, 1H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 198/200$ .

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**Compound 10b: 2,3-Dihydro-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1*H*-isoindole**

Following General Procedure 1, 5-bromo-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-isoindole (0.128 g, 0.647 mmol) was reacted with [2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]boronic acid (0.184 g, 0.971 mmol) to provide the title compound (0.124 g, 73%) following purification by column chromatography (85:15 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH + 0.1% conc. NH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.74 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J*=8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (s, 2H), 4.29 (s, 2H), 2.34 (br s, 1H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 264.

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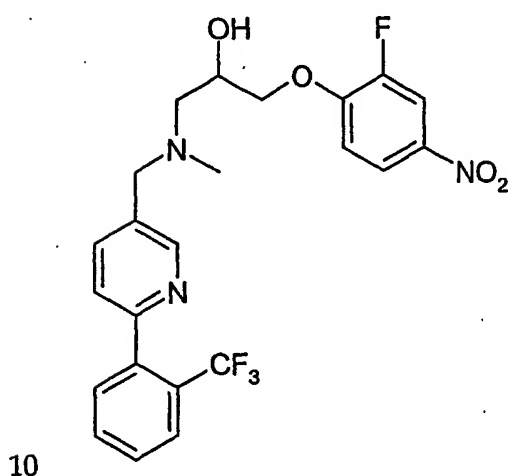
**Compound 10c: α-[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-1,3-dihydro-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2*H*-isoindole-2-ethanol**

Following General Procedure 5, 2,3-dihydro-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1*H*-isoindole (0.0585 g, 0.222 mmol) and 2-[(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-oxirane (0.0474 g, 0.222 mmol) were combined and heated at 90 °C for 14 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-65% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.0374 g, 29%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile to produce a white, hygroscopic solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 8.13 (ddd, *J*=1.6 Hz, *J*=2.8 Hz, *J*=9.2 Hz, 1H),

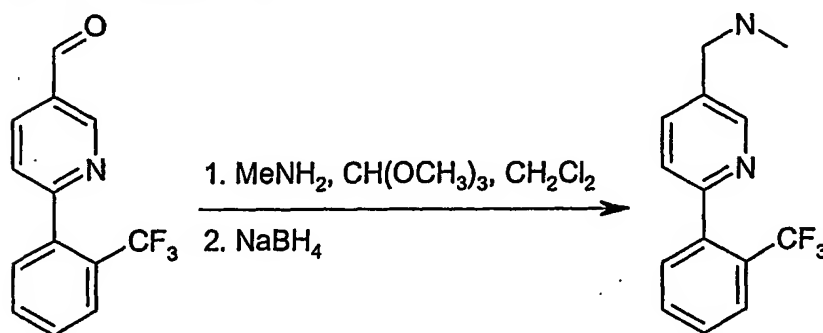
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8.09 (dd,  $J=2.8$  Hz,  $J=11.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.33 (m, 4H), 5.08-4.74 (br s, 4H), 4.52 (sextet,  $J=4.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.30 (d,  $J=4.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.79-3.68 (m, 2H). MS (ESI)  $(M+H)^+ = 477$ . Anal. Calcd for  $C_{24}H_{20}F_4N_2O_4 + 0.6$  TFA +  $2.5$   $H_2O$ : C, 51.31; H, 4.37; N, 4.75. Found: C, 51.29; H, 4.38; N, 4.54.

**Example 11: 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinyl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol**



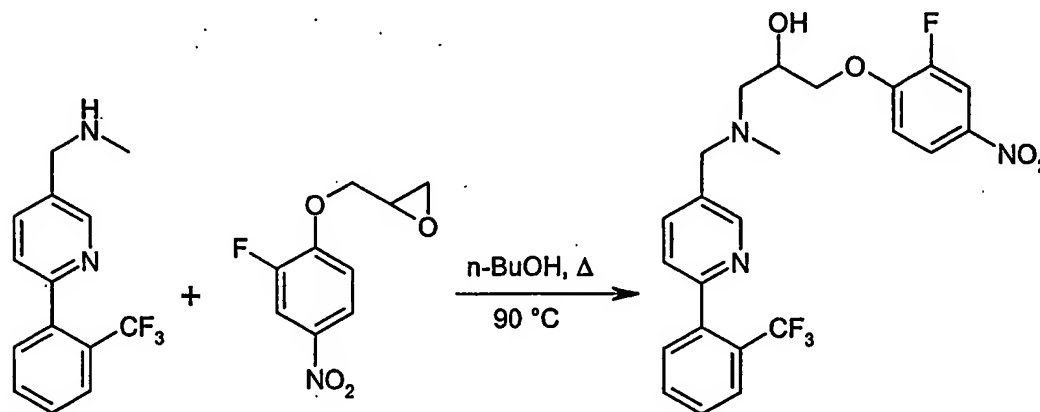
**Compound 11a: N-Methyl-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinemethanamine**



15 6-[2-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinecarboxaldehyde (0.360 g, 1.43 mmol) was treated according to General Procedure 3 to provide the title compound (0.312 g, 91%). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>90%) to be used in subsequent steps.  $^1H$ -NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.62 (d,  $J=1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d,

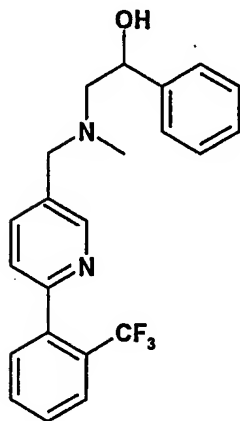
$J=2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.40 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(M+H)^+ = 267$ .

**Compound 11b: 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[6-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3-pyridinyl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol**



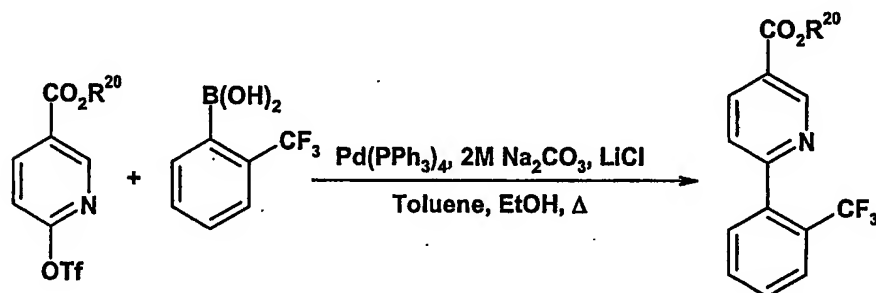
Following General Procedure 5, *N*-methyl-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinemethanamine (0.100 g, 0.38 mmol) and 2-[(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]oxirane (0.094 g, 0.38 mmol) were combined and heated at 90 °C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-50% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.071 g, 31%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/ CH<sub>3</sub>CN to produce a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 8.78 (d,  $J=1.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.13-8.03 (m, 3H), 7.84 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.74 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t,  $J=8.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.66 (br s, 1H), 4.53 (br s, 2H), 4.23 (d,  $J=4.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.43 (t,  $J=10.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.99 (s, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(M+H)^+ = 480$ . Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> + 0.8 H<sub>2</sub>O + 1.2 TFA: C, 48.37; H, 3.80; N, 6.66. Found: C, 48.37; H, 3.70; N, 6.79.

**Example 12:  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl-[[6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



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**Compound 12a: Methyl 6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinecarboxylate and Ethyl 6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinecarboxylate**

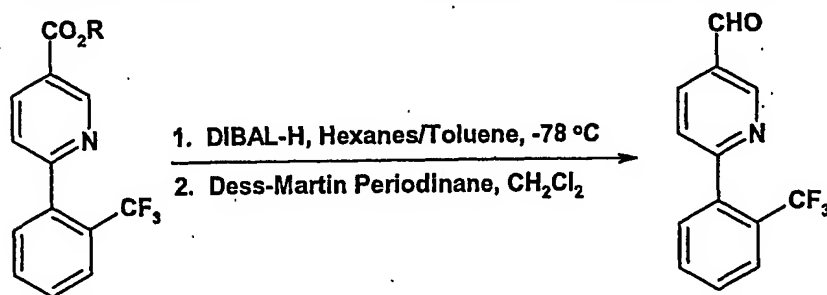


$R^{20}$  = Methyl, or Ethyl

10 A solution of [2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]boronic acid (2.27 g, 12.0 mmol) in ethanol (30 mL) was added to a mixture of methyl 6-[[trifluoromethylsulfonyl]oxy]-3-pyridinecarboxylate (2.27 g, 7.96 mmol), LiCl (1.01 g, 23.9 mmol),  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (0.46 g, 0.40 mmol), toluene (120 mL), and 2 M  $Na_2CO_3$  (12 mL). The resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 18 h. The reaction was then concentrated *in vacuo*, and the residue was diluted with water (60 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with  
15 EtOAc (3 x 60 mL). The combined organic phases were then washed with brine (80 mL), dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography (4:1 Hexanes:EtOAc) to provide the title compound as a 1:1.4 mixture of the methyl and ethyl esters (1.59 g, 69%). Methyl

ester:  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  9.30 (dd,  $J=0.8$  Hz,  $J=2.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.37 (dd,  $J=2.4$  Hz,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd,  $J=0.8$  Hz,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.50 (m, 3H), 4.00 (s, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 282$ . Ethyl ester:  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  9.29 (dd,  $J=0.8$  Hz,  $J=2.4$  Hz, 1H), 8.37 (dd,  $J=2.4$  Hz,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd,  $J=0.8$  Hz,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.50 (m, 3H), 4.45 (q,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.44 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 296$ .

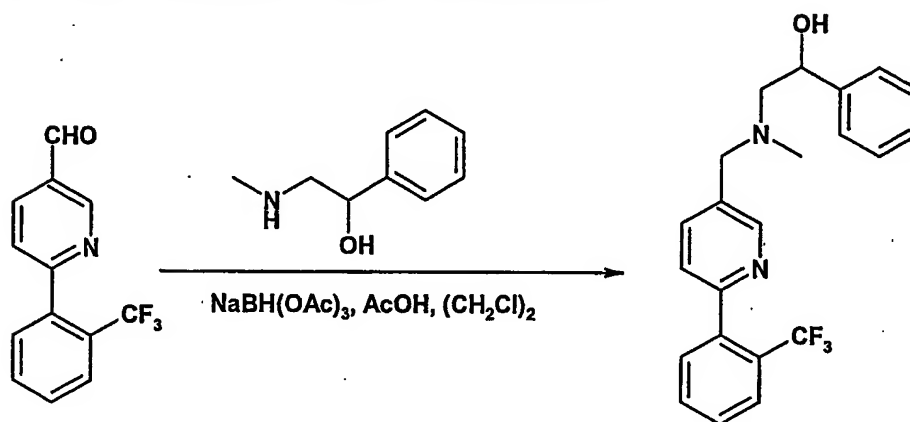
**Compound 12b: 6-[2-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinecarboxaldehyde**



- 10 DIBAL-H (12.1 mL of a 1 M solution in hexanes, 12.1 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of a mixture of methyl and ethyl 6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinecarboxylate (1.59 g of a 1:1.4 mixture, 5.50 mmol) in dry toluene (45 mL) maintained at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ . After the addition was complete, the reaction was stirred at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$  for 30 min, and then 12 mL of 1 N HCl was added cautiously and the mixture was
- 15 allowed to warm to room temperature. Additional water (30 mL) was added, the layers were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 60 mL). The combined organic phases were then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (50 mL) and Dess-Martin periodinane (2.36 g, 5.57 mmol) was added in portions. After the addition was complete, the
- 20 reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction was then quenched with 1:1 saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ :saturated  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$  (40 mL) and stirred for 15 min. The layers were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3 x 40 mL). The combined organic phases were then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography (3:2 Hexanes:EtOAc)
- 25 to provide the title compound (1.23 g, 89% for the two steps) as a slightly yellow oil which solidified upon storage in the freezer.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  10.19 (s, 1H), 9.16

(dd,  $J=0.8$  Hz,  $J=2.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.25 (dd,  $J=2.4$  Hz,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.56 (m, 3H), 7.52 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H). MS (ESI)  $(M+H)^+ = 252$ .

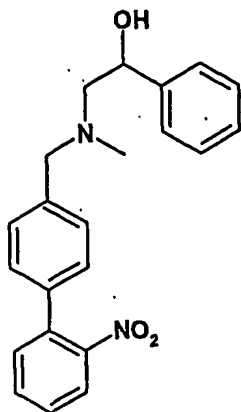
**Compound 12c:  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl-[[6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



Following General Procedure 4, 6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridine-carboxaldehyde (0.166 g, 0.66 mmol),  $\alpha$ -[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.100 g, 0.66 mmol), and  $\text{NaBH}(\text{OAc})_3$  (0.280 g, 1.32 mmol) were combined. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-40%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) to provide the title compound (0.279 g, 84%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ /acetonitrile to produce a white, hygroscopic solid.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  8.81 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.64 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.31 (m, 5H), 5.17 (br m, 1H), 4.54 (br s, 2H), 3.33 (br s, 2H), 3.03 (br s, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(M+H)^+ = 387$ . Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O} \cdot 1.2 \text{ TFA} \cdot 1.1 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$ : C, 53.97; H, 4.53; N, 5.16. Found: C, 54.00; H, 4.43; N, 5.52.

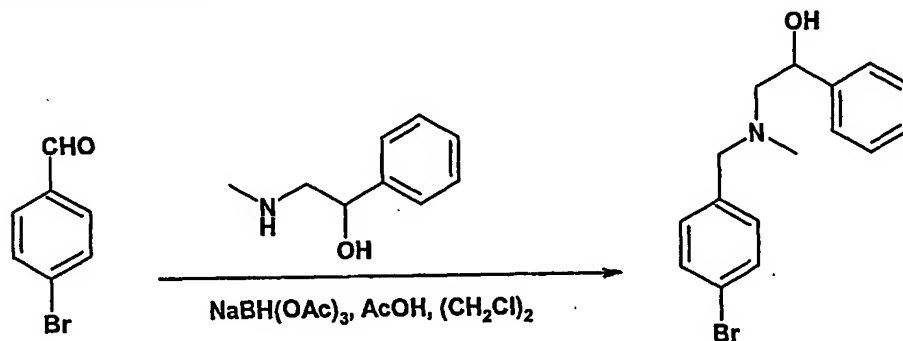


**Example 13:  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[(2'-nitro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol**



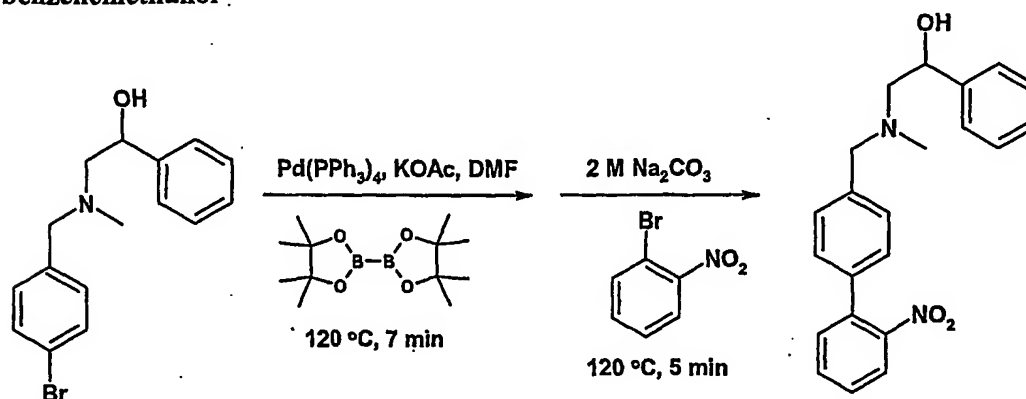
5

**Compound 13a:  $\alpha$ -[[[(4-Bromophenyl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol**



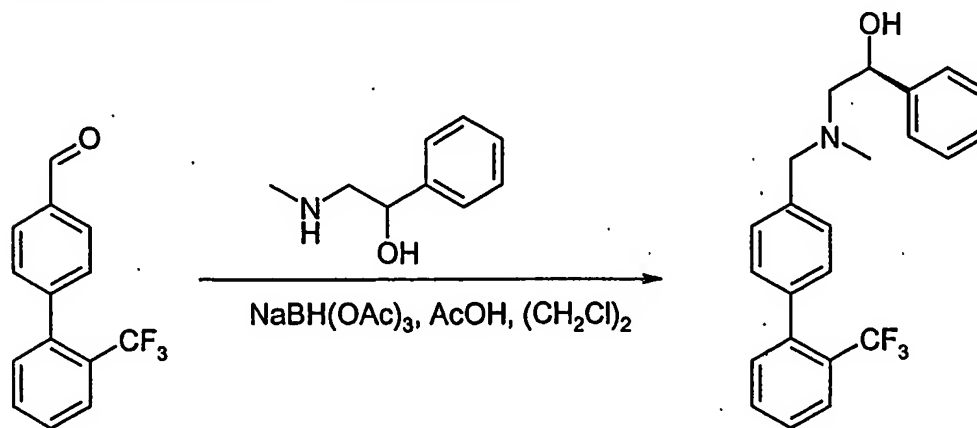
Following General Procedure 4, 4-bromobenzaldehyde (1.22 g, 6.59 mmol),  $\alpha$ -  
 10 [(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.500 g, 3.31 mmol), and NaBH(OAc)<sub>3</sub>  
 (1.40 g, 6.61 mmol) were combined. The crude product was purified by flash  
 chromatography (Gradient of 100% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> to 9:1 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH + 0.1% conc. NH<sub>3</sub>)  
 to provide the title compound (0.942 g, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.48-7.44 (m,  
 2H), 7.36-7.32 (m, 4H), 7.32-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 2H), 4.75 (dd,  $J$ =3.6 Hz,  
 15  $J$ =10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (d,  $J$ =13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (d,  $J$ =13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (half of d of  
 AB<sub>q</sub>,  $J$ =10.4 Hz,  $J$ =12.4 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (half of d of AB<sub>q</sub>,  $J$ =3.2 Hz,  $J$ =12.4 Hz, 1H),  
 2.31 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 320/322.

**Compound 13b:  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[(2'-nitro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



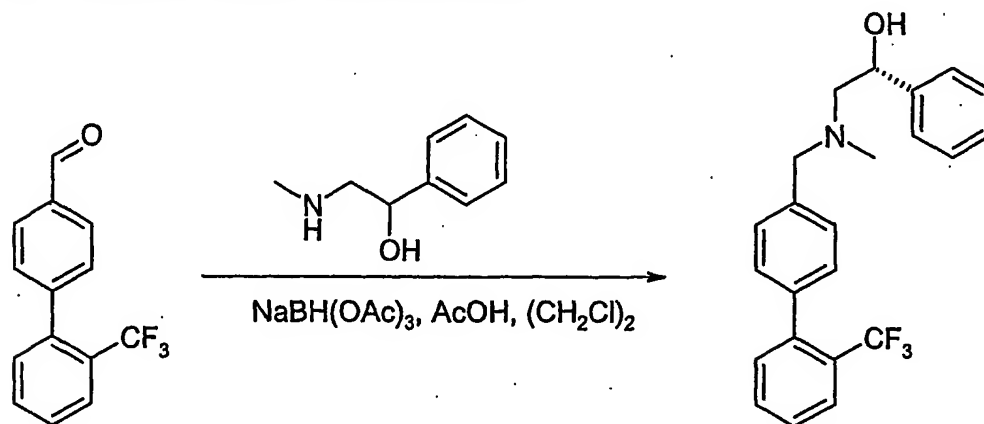
- 5 Following General Procedure 2,  $\alpha$ -[[[(4-bromophenyl)methyl]methylamino]-methyl]benzenemethanol (0.0530 g, 0.165 mmol) and bis(pinacolato)diboron (0.0462 g, 0.182 mmol) were combined. The resulting boronate ester was used for the reaction with 1-bromo-2-nitrobenzene (0.0669 g, 0.331 mmol) as the second aryl
- 10  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) to provide the title compound (0.0113 g, 14%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ /acetonitrile to produce a white, hygroscopic solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  7.96 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.75 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.57 (br m, 3H), 7.57-7.29 (br m, 8H), 5.11 (dd,  $J=3.6$  Hz,  $J=10.8$  Hz, 1H),
- 15 4.75 (br d,  $J=12.8$  Hz, 0.5H), 4.54-4.44 (br m, 1H), 4.32 (br d,  $J=12.0$  Hz, 0.5H), 3.48-3.15 (br m, 2H), 3.07 (s, 1.5H), 2.91 (s, 1.5H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 363$ . Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3 + 1.1 \text{ TFA} + 1.1 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$ : C, 57.25; H, 5.02; N, 5.52. Found: C, 57.26; H, 4.97; N, 5.46.

**Example 14: ( $\alpha^1S$ )- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



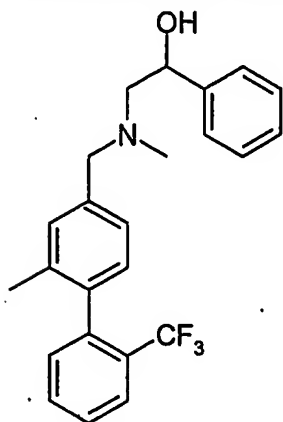
Following General Procedure 4, 2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.375 g, 1.50 mmol),  $\alpha$ -[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.453 g, 3.00 mmol), and NaBH(OAc)<sub>3</sub> (0.636 g, 3.00 mmol) were combined. Following the usual work-up, silica gel column chromatography (9:1 Hexanes:EtOAc) provided the title compound as a racemic mixture. Subsequent chromatography using CHIRALCEL<sup>®</sup> OD (990:10:1 EtOH:Hex:Et<sub>2</sub>NH) gave the title compound. The HCl salt of the title compound (0.0102 g, 3%) was prepared using 1M HCl in Et<sub>2</sub>O. This material was lyophilized to produce a white solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained.  $[\alpha]_D^{24} = +44.2^\circ$  (c=1.02, MeOH). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.80 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.69-7.56 (overlapping t at 7.67 and m,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 4H), 7.46-7.32 (overlapping d at 7.45 and br m,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 8H), 5.11 (dd,  $J=6.8$  Hz,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.85-4.35 (br m, 2H), 3.26 (br s, 2H), 3.00 (br s, 3H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 386. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO + 0.1 H<sub>2</sub>O + 1.2 HCl: C, 64.10; H, 5.47; N, 3.25. Found: C, 64.15; H, 5.33; N, 3.80.

**Example 15: ( $\alpha^1R$ )- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**

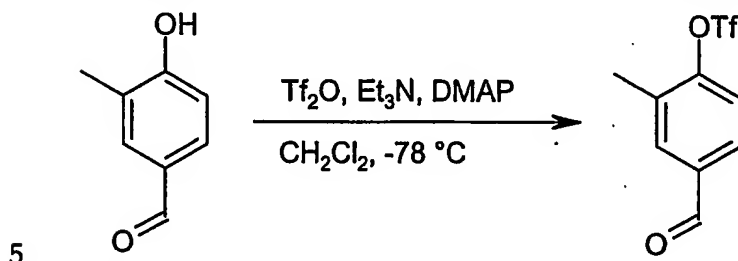


- Following General Procedure 4, 2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.375 g, 1.50 mmol),  $\alpha$ -[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.453 g, 3.00 mmol), and  $\text{NaBH}(\text{OAc})_3$  (0.636 g, 3.00 mmol) were combined. Following the usual work-up, silica gel column chromatography (9:1 Hexanes:EtOAc) provided the title compound as a racemic mixture. Subsequent chromatography using CHIRALCEL<sup>®</sup> OD (990:10:1 EtOH:Hex:Et<sub>2</sub>NH) gave the title compound. The HCl salt of the title compound (0.0056 g, 2%) was prepared using 1M HCl in Et<sub>2</sub>O. This material was lyophilized to produce a white solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained.  $[\alpha]_D^{28} = -49.5^\circ$  ( $c=0.56$ , MeOH). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.79 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.68-7.55 (overlapping t at 7.66 and m,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 4H), 7.45-7.30 (overlapping d at 7.44 and br m,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 8H), 5.10 (dd,  $J=6.4$  Hz,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.84-4.33 (br m, 2H), 3.25 (br s, 2H), 2.98 (br s, 3H). MS (ESI) ( $M+H$ )<sup>+</sup> = 386. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO + 1.5 HCl: C, 62.77; H, 5.38; N, 3.18. Found: C, 62.89; H, 5.31; N, 3.40.

**Example 16:**  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol



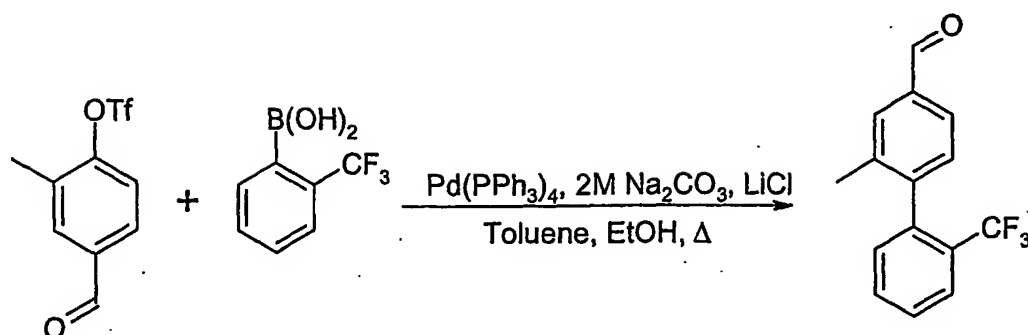
**Compound 16a:** 4-Formyl-2-methylphenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate



Following General Procedure 7, 4-hydroxy-3-methylbenzaldehyde (0.500 g, 3.67 mmol), DMAP (0.045 g, 0.37 mmol), NEt<sub>3</sub> (1.126 mL, 8.08 mmol), and triflic anhydride (1.139 g, 4.04 mmol) were combined. Silica gel column chromatography (8:2 Hexanes:EtOAc) provided the title compound (0.896 g, 91%) as a white solid.

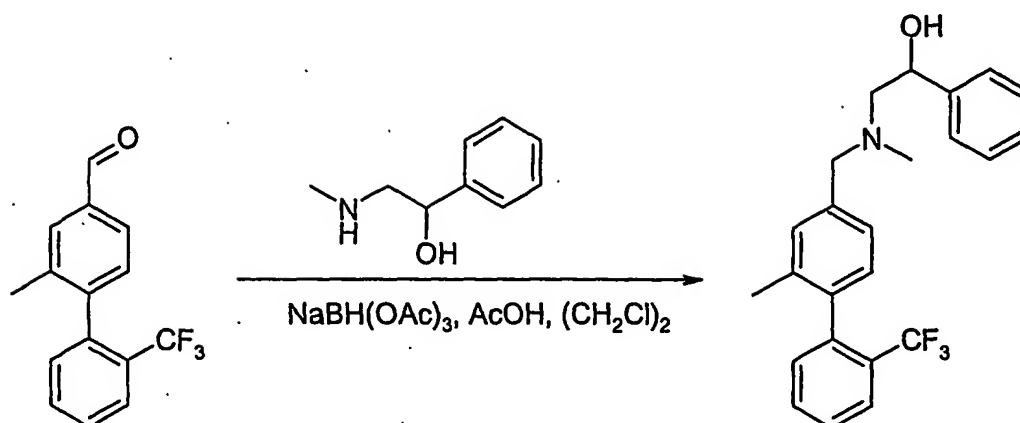
10 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  10.01 (s, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d,  $J$ =8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d,  $J$ =7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H).

**Compound 16b:** 2-Methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde



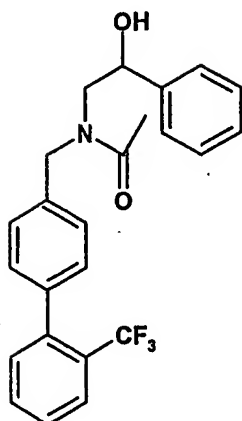
- A solution of [2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]boronic acid (2.79 g, 14.66 mmol) in ethanol (35 mL) was added to a mixture of 4-formyl-2-methylphenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (2.62 g, 9.78 mmol), LiCl (1.24 g, 29.33 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.57 g, 0.49 mmol), toluene (145 mL), and 2 M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (15 mL). The resulting mixture was heated at reflux for 24 h. The reaction was then concentrated *in vacuo*, and the residue was diluted with water (60 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 60 mL). The combined organic phases were then washed with brine (80 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the title compound (2.533 g, 95%). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>85%) to be used in subsequent steps. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 10.04 (s, 1H), 7.80-7.78 (overlapping s at 7.78 and d at 7.79, *J*=7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.12 (s, 3H).
- MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 265.

**Compound 16c:** α-[[Methyl][2-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]- benzenemethanol

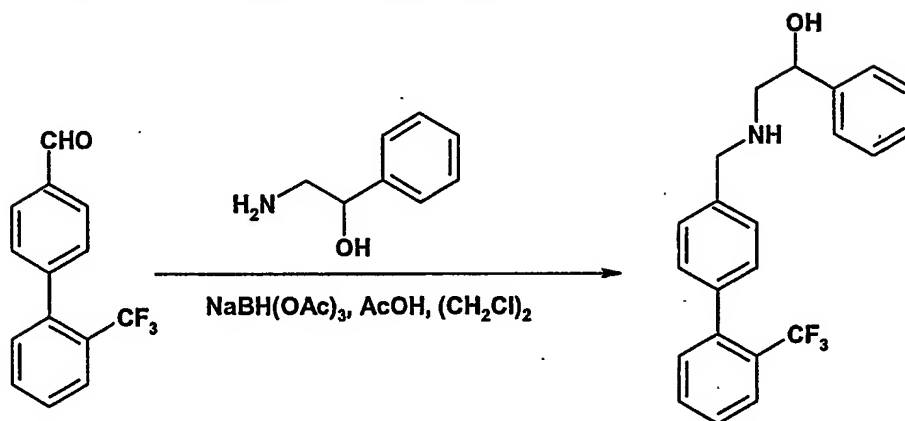


Following General Procedure 4, 2-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (1.076 g, 3.55 mmol), α-[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.200 g, 1.32 mmol), and NaBH(OAc)<sub>3</sub> (0.562 g, 2.65 mmol) were combined. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 30-85% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.267 g, 40%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile to produce a white solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 7.80 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.22 (overlapping d at 7.26 and br m, *J*=7.6 Hz, 9H), 5.09 (dd, *J*=3.2 Hz, *J*=10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (br d, *J*=12.4 Hz, 0.5H), 4.47-4.37 (br m, 1H), 4.25 (br d, *J*=13.2 Hz, 0.5H), 3.41-3.13 (br m, 2H), 3.05 (br s, 1.5H), 2.89 (br s, 1.5H), 2.07-2.05 (overlapping s at 2.07 and s at 2.05, 3H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 400. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO + 0.1 H<sub>2</sub>O + 1.1 TFA: C, 59.75; H, 4.84; N, 2.66. Found: C, 59.73; H, 4.81; N, 2.75.

**Example 17:** *N*-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-*N*-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]acetamide



**Compound 17a:  $\alpha$ -[[[2'-(Trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



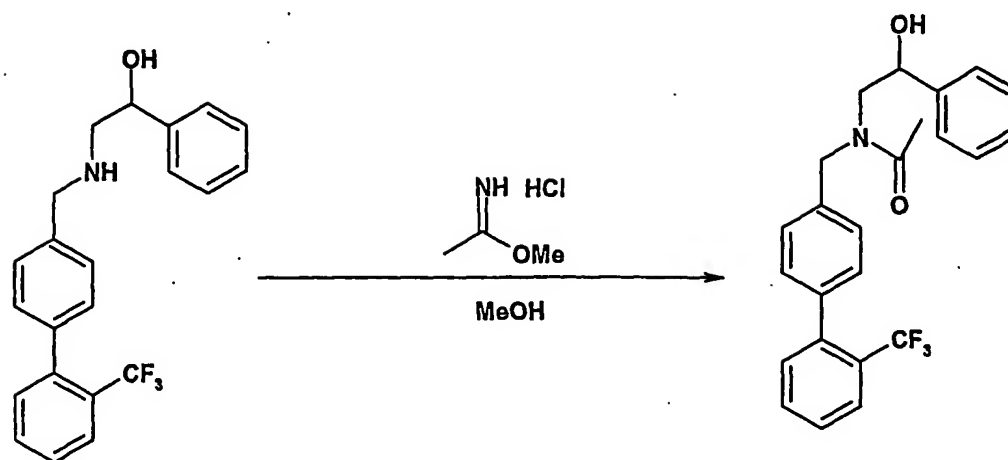
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Following General Procedure 4, 2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.121 g, 0.484 mmol),  $\alpha$ -(aminomethyl)benzenemethanol (0.0975 g, 0.711 mmol), and  $\text{NaBH}(\text{OAc})_3$  (0.179 g, 0.846 mmol) were combined. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (9:1  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :MeOH) to provide the title compound (0.133 g, 74%).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.74 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.27 (m, 10H), 4.78 (dd,  $J=3.6$  Hz,  $J=8.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.89 (ABq,  $J=13.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.98 (dd,  $J=3.6$  Hz,  $J=12.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.81 (overlapping dd and br s,  $J=9.2$  Hz,  $J=12.4$  Hz for dd, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 372$ .

15

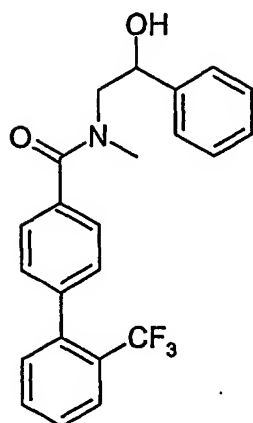
**Compound 17b: *N*-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-*N*-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]acetamide**



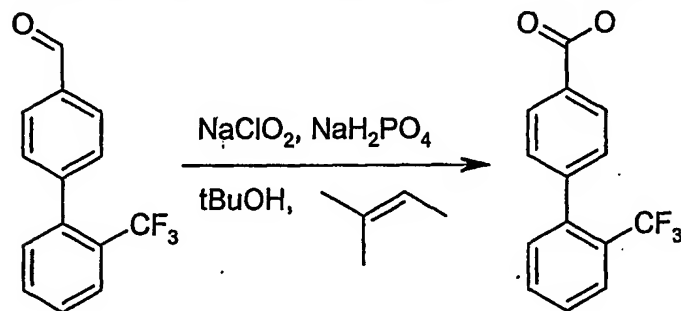


- Methyl acetimidate hydrochloride (0.0847 g, 0.773 mmol) was added to a solution of  $\alpha$ -[[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol (0.0287 g, 0.0773 mmol) in dry MeOH (1 mL) maintained at 0 °C. The reaction was stirred for 6 d at room temperature, and then an additional portion of methyl acetimidate hydrochloride (0.0500 g, 0.456 mmol) was added. After stirring an additional 7 d, the reaction was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (2 mL) and washed with a saturated solution of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1 mL). The aqueous phase was back-extracted with additional EtOAc (3 x 1 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-60% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.0105 g, 33%). This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile.
- Due to hindered rotation about the amide bond, rotamers were observed in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.78-7.74 (m, 1H), 7.66-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.40-7.20 (m, 10H), 5.00 (dd,  $J=4.8$  Hz,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 0.4H), 4.93 (dd,  $J=4.8$  Hz,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 0.6H), 4.88 (d,  $J=14.8$  Hz, 0.6H), 4.72 (d,  $J=17.2$  Hz, 0.4H), 4.61-4.54 (m, 1H), 3.67-3.58 (m, 1H), 3.50 (dd,  $J=8.4$  Hz,  $J=13.6$  Hz, 0.4H), 3.39 (dd,  $J=4.8$  Hz,  $J=15.2$  Hz, 0.6H), 2.16 (s, 1.2H), 2.11 (s, 1.8H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 414.
- Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>+0.3 TFA+0.6 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 64.45; H, 5.17; N, 3.06. Found: C, 64.55; H, 5.10; N, 3.50.

**Example 18:** *N*-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-*N*-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxamide

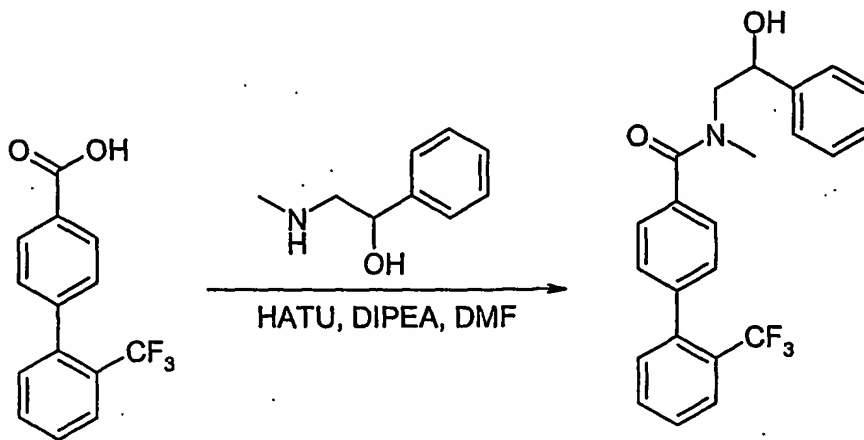


**Compound 18a: 2'-(Trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylic acid**



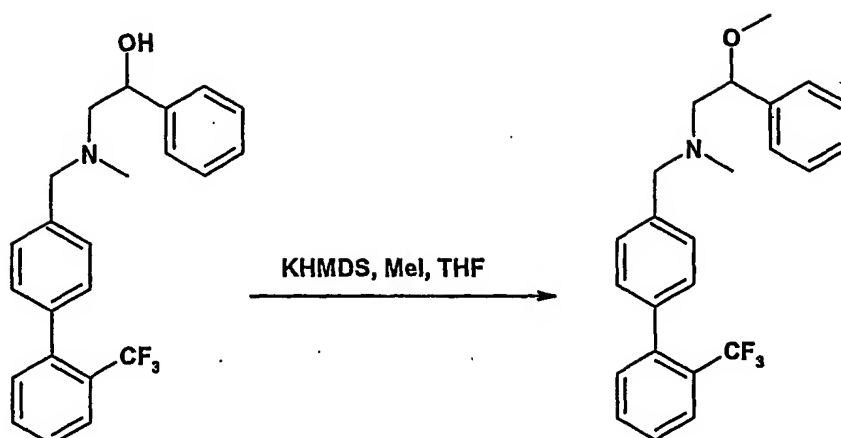
- To a solution of 2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.147 g, 0.59  
 5 mol) in t-BuOH (9 mL) and 2-methyl-2-butene (9 mL) was added a solution of  
 NaClO<sub>2</sub> (0.496, 5.50 mmol) and NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (0.588 g, 4.9 mmol) in water (6 mL) in  
 four portions over 0.5 h. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred for 5 h at room  
 temperature, concentrated *in vacuo*, and the residue was diluted with water. The  
 aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x). The product in the combined organic  
 10 phases was then extracted into 1 N NaOH (3 x). The CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> layer was discarded, the  
 combined aqueous layers were acidified with 1 N HCl, and the product was back  
 extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x). The combined organic phases were then dried over  
 Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the title compound (0.125 g,  
 80%) as a white solid. The crude material was of sufficient purity (>90%) to be used  
 15 in subsequent steps. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 8.06 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz,  
 1H), 7.66 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.36 (overlapping d at 7.41  
 and d at 7.37, *J*=8.0 Hz for both d, 3H).

**Compound 18b: *N*-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-*N*-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxamide**



A solution of  $\alpha$ -[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.013 g, 0.085 mmol) in  
 5 DMF (0.5 mL) was added to a solution of 2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylic acid (0.025 g, 0.094 mmol), HATU (0.036 g, 0.094 mmol) and DIPEA (0.022 mL, 0.128 mmol) in DMF (0.5 mL). The reaction was carried out in a 48-well plate. The reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature, concentrated *in vacuo*, redissolved in EtOAc (1 mL), and washed with 1 N NaOH (3 x 1 mL) and water (2 x  
 10 1 mL). The organic phase was concentrated *in vacuo* to provide the title compound (0.027 g, 81%) with >90% purity. Due to hindered rotation about the amide bond, rotamers were observed in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.77 (dd,  $J=2.0$  Hz,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.22 (d at 7.30,  $J=8.0$  Hz, d at 7.23,  $J=8.0$  Hz, br m, 8H), 7.10-  
 15 7.08 (m, 1H), 5.08 (t,  $J=6.6$  Hz, 0.5H), 4.81 (t,  $J=6.4$  Hz, 0.5H), 3.74-3.72 (m, 1H), 3.50 (t,  $J=6.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 1.5H), 2.94 (s, 1.5H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 400.

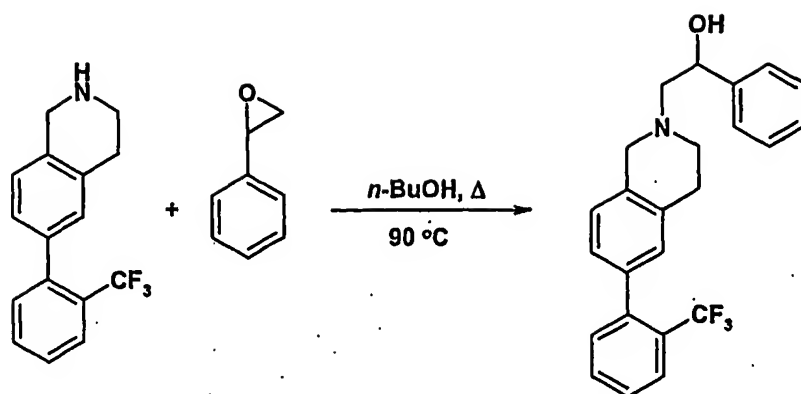
**Example 19:  $\beta$ -Methoxy-*N*-methyl-*N*-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]-benzeneethanamine**



KHMDS (0.45 mL of 0.5M in toluene, 0.225 mmol) was added to a solution of  $\alpha$ -[[methyl-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol (0.0286 g, 0.0742 mmol) in dry THF (3 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 min, and then neat iodomethane (4.6  $\mu$ L, 0.074 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 19 h, and then quenched by the addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL). The layers were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4 x 3 mL). The combined organic phases were then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-70% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.0066 g, 17%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.82 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.56 (m, 4H), 7.54-7.30 (m, 8H), 4.78-4.65 (m, 1H), 4.62-4.42 (m, 1.5H), 4.36 (br d, *J*=12.4 Hz, 0.5H), 3.50-3.30 (m, 1.5H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 3.17 (br d, *J*=12.8 Hz, 0.5H), 3.06 (s, 1.5H), 2.94 (s, 1.5H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 400.

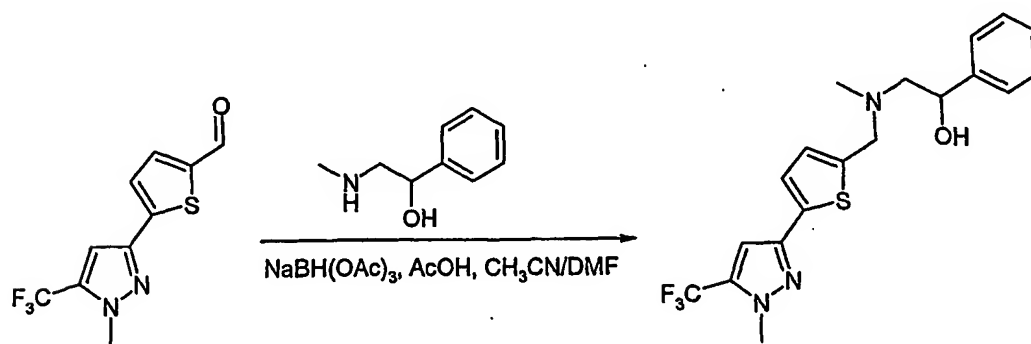
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**Example 20: 3,4-Dihydro- $\alpha$ -phenyl-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol**



Following General Procedure 5, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-isoquinoline (0.0247 g, 0.0891 mmol) and 2-(phenyl)oxirane (0.010 mL, 0.0877 mmol) were combined and heated at 90 °C for 16 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 25-45% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.0111 g, 24%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile to produce a white, hygroscopic solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 7.79 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.24 (m, 5H), 5.27 (dd, *J*=3.2 Hz, *J*=10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.86-4.46 (br m, 2H), 4.12-3.90 (br m, 1H), 3.62-3.12 (br m, 5H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 398. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO+1.3 TFA+0.5 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 57.60; H, 4.42; N, 2.53. Found: C, 57.60; H, 4.35; N, 2.49.

**Example 21: α-[[Methyl[[5-[1-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl]-2-thienyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



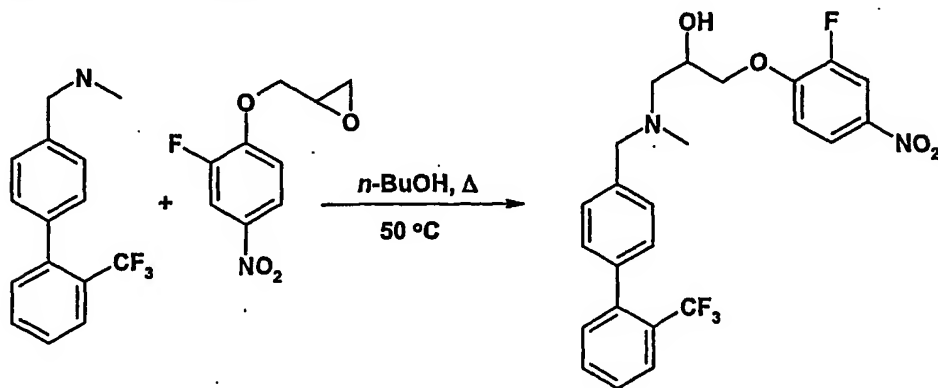
A solution of 5-[1-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl]-2-thiophenecarboxaldehyde (0.260 g, 0.77 mmol), α-

[(methylamino)methyl]benzenemethanol (0.151 g, 0.77 mmol), and acetic acid (0.080 mL) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (4 mL) was stirred for 3 days. A solution of NaBH(OAc)<sub>3</sub> (0.211 g, 3.87 mmol) in DMF (4 mL) was added and the reaction was stirred for 2 days, concentrated *in vacuo*, redissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and washed with 1 N NaOH. The layers were then filtered through a Hydromatrix<sup>®</sup> column and the product was eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 15-85% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.040 g, 10%) as its TFA salt. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 7.41-7.28 (br m, 7H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 5.10 (dd, *J*=6.0 Hz, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.80-4.65 (br s at 4.75, s at 4.69, and s at 4.65, 2H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 3.33-3.27 (overlapping s at 3.33 and s at 3.30, 2H), 3.01 (br s, 3H). MS (ESI) (*M*+*H*)<sup>+</sup> = 396. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>OS + 0.2 H<sub>2</sub>O + 1.0 TFA: C, 54.02; H, 4.25; N, 4.85. Found: C, 54.05; H, 4.09; N, 4.85.

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**Example 22: 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol**

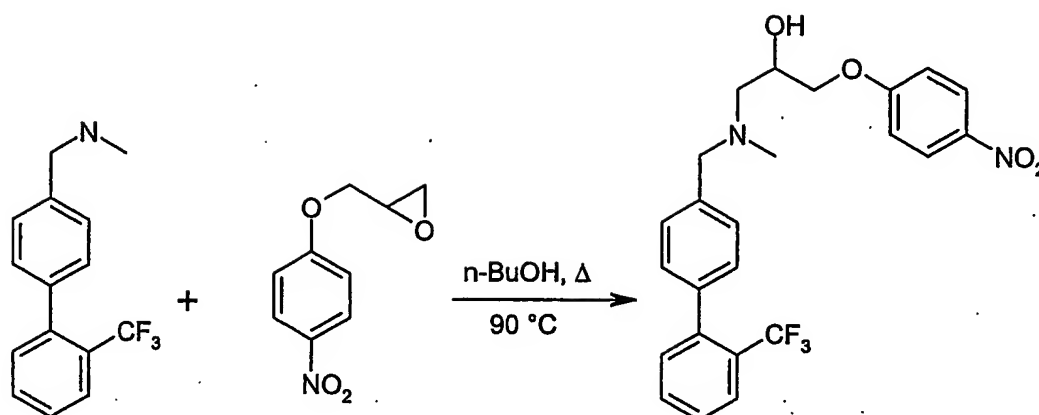


Following General Procedure 5, N-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine (0.0800 g of 90% purity, 0.288 mmol) and 2-[(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]oxirane (0.0613 g, 0.288 mmol) were combined and heated at 50 °C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-60% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.030 g, 18%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 8.08 (d, J=9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, J=2.0 Hz, J=11.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, J=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, J=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, J=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, J=8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.72-4.16 (br m at 4.51, br s at 4.21, and underlying br m, 5H), 3.62-3.24 (br s at 3.55, br t at 3.40, br s at 3.28, J=11.2 Hz for t, 2H), 2.97 (br s, 3H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 479. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> + 0.1 H<sub>2</sub>O + 1.2 TFA: C, 51.39; H, 3.82; N, 4.54. Found: C, 51.34; H, 3.73; N, 4.90.

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**Example 23: 1-[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol**



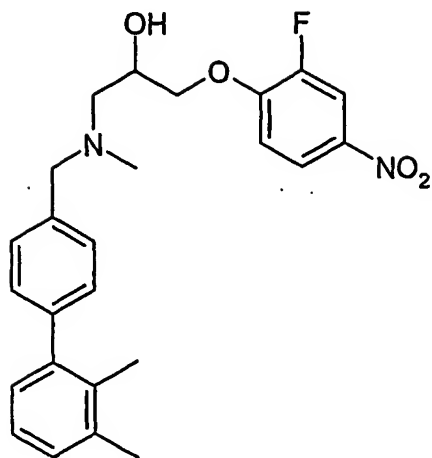
Following General Procedure 5, *N*-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine (0.072 g, 0.29 mmol) and 2-[(4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-oxirane (0.057 g, 0.29 mmol) were combined and heated at 50 °C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-60%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) to provide the title compound (0.034 g, 20%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from  $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  to produce a white solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  8.20 (d,  $J=9.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.62-7.55 (overlapping d at 7.61 and t at 7.57,  $J=8.4$  Hz for d and  $J=7.6$  Hz for t, 3H), 7.44 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.09 (br d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 4.64-4.31 (overlapping br s at 4.64, br s at 4.31, and br m, 3H), 4.13 (br s, 2H), 3.53-3.29 (br s at 3.53, br t at 3.38, and br s at 3.29,  $J=11.6$  Hz for t, 2H), 2.97 (br s, 3H). MS (ESI) ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ) = 461. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{23}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_4 + 0.2 \text{ H}_2\text{O} + 1.0 \text{ TFA}$ : C, 54.02; H, 4.25; N, 4.85. Found: C, 54.05; H, 4.09; N, 4.85.

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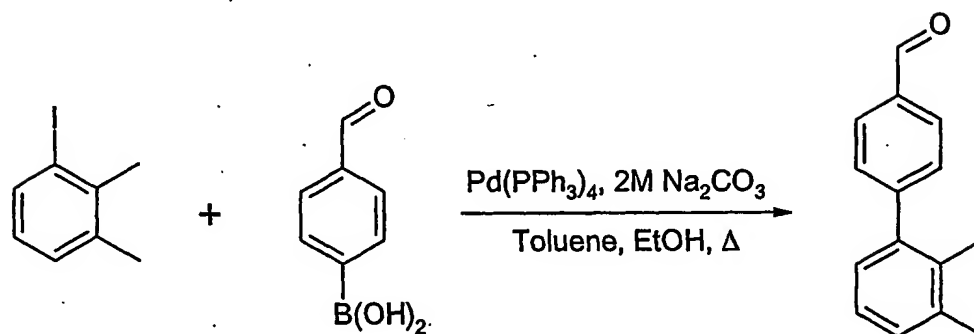
**Example 24:** 1-[[[(2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol

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**Compound 24a: 2',3'-Dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde**

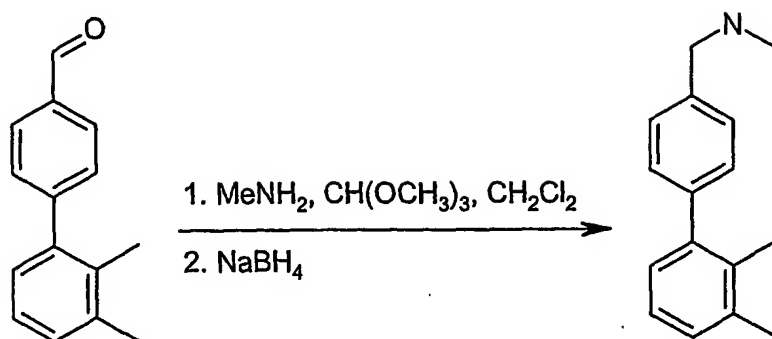


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Following General Procedure 1, 1-iodo-2,3-dimethyl-benzene (2.06 g, 8.89 mmol), 4-formylphenylboronic acid (2.00 g, 13.34 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.51 g, 0.44 mmol), and 2 M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (31 mL, 62 mmol) were combined. Following the usual work-up provided the title compound (1.05 g, 56%). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>75%) to be used in the subsequent steps. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 10.07 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.22-7.15 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H).

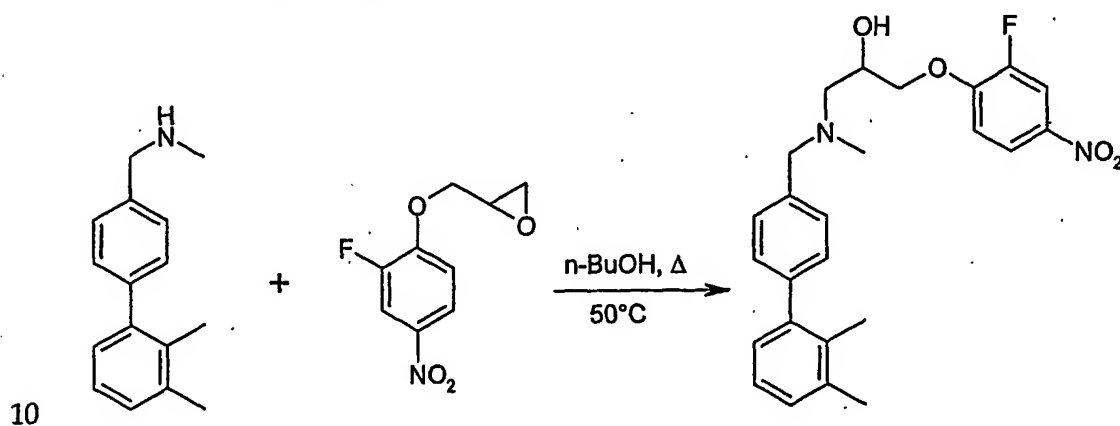
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**Compound 24b: *N*,2',3'-Trimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine**



2',3'-Dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.351 g, 1.67 mmol) was treated according to General Procedure 3 to provide the title compound (0.120 g, 40%). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>80%) to be used in subsequent steps. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.34 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.06 (m, 3H), 3.79 (br s, 2H), 2.49 (br s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) (*M*+H)<sup>+</sup> = 226.

**Compound 24c:** 1-[[2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol

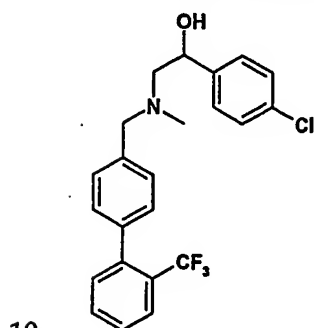


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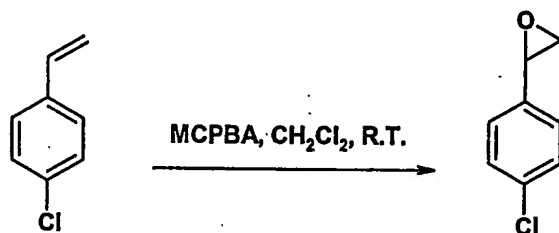
Following General Procedure 5, *N*,2',3'-trimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine (0.063 g, 0.30 mmol) and 2-[(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]oxirane (0.64 g, 0.38 mmol) were combined and heated at 50 °C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-60% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.027 g, 16%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>3</sub>CN to produce a white solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 8.09-8.02 (br m, 2H), 7.58 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (br s, 1H), 7.15

(d,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.62, (br s, 0.5H), 4.49 (br s, 2H), 4.27-4.26 (overlapping br s at 4.27 and br s at 4.26, 2.5H), 3.54-3.28 (br s at 3.54, br s at 3.39, and br s at 3.29, 2H), 3.00-2.95 (overlapping br s at 3.00 and br s at 2.95, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(M+H)^+ = 439$ . Anal. Calcd for  $C_{25}H_{27}FN_2O_4 + 0.1 H_2O + 1.6 TFA$ : C, 54.39; H, 4.66; N, 4.50. Found: C, 54.30; H, 4.48; N, 4.41.

**Example 25: 4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**

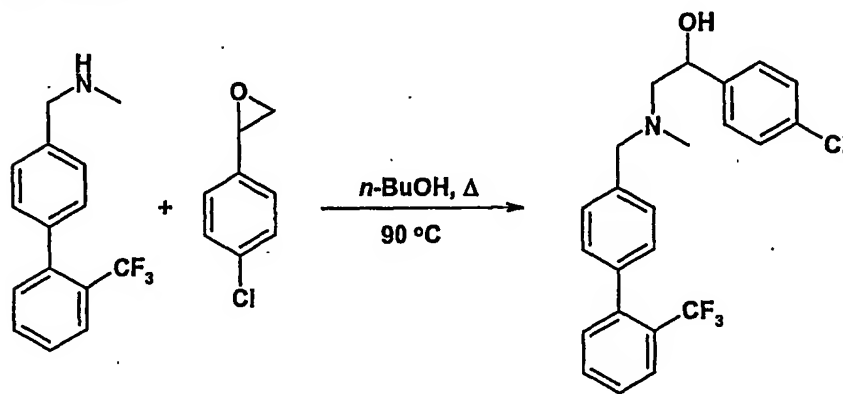


**Compound 25a: 2-(4-Chlorophenyl)oxirane**



A solution of MCPBA (1.50 g of 60% purity, 5.22 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) was added to a solution of 1-chloro-4-ethenylbenzene (0.554 g, 4.00 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) maintained at 0 °C. The reaction was allowed to slowly warm to room temperature and stirred for 24 h. The mixture was filtered, and the filtrate was washed with saturated  $NaHCO_3$ . The organic phase was dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography (9:1 Hexanes:EtOAc) to provide the title compound (0.198 g, 32%).  $^1H$ -NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.31 (d,  $J=8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d,  $J=8.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.83 (distorted t,  $J=3.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.14 (dd,  $J=4.0$  Hz,  $J=5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.75 (dd,  $J=2.4$  Hz,  $J=5.6$  Hz, 1H).

**Compound 25b: 4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino)methyl]-benzenemethanol**

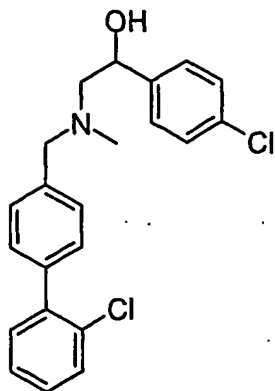


- 5 Following General Procedure 5, *N*-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine (0.114 g of 90% purity, 0.387 mmol) and 2-(4-chlorophenyl)oxirane (0.060 g, 0.387 mmol) were combined and heated at 90 °C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 25–40% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.051 g, 24%) as its TFA salt. This material was
- 10 lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 7.78 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.62–7.52 (t and overlapping br m, *J*=7.6 Hz for t, 3H), 7.48–7.31 (m, 7H), 5.12–5.04 (m, 1H), 4.73 (br d, *J*=13.2 Hz, 0.5H), 4.45 (br m, 1H), 4.27 (br d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 0.5H), 3.46–3.12 (m, 2H), 3.03 (br s, 1.5H), 2.89
- 15 (br s, 1.5H). MS (ESI) (*M*+H)<sup>+</sup> = 420. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>ClF<sub>3</sub>NO+1.2 TFA+0.1 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 54.62; H, 4.04; N, 2.51. Found: C, 54.63; H, 3.83; N, 2.52.

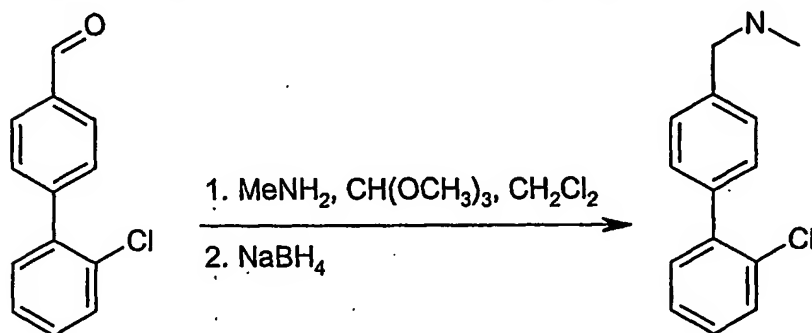
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**Example 26: 4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[(2'-chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino)methyl]-benzenemethanol**

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**Compound 26a: 2'-Chloro-N-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine**

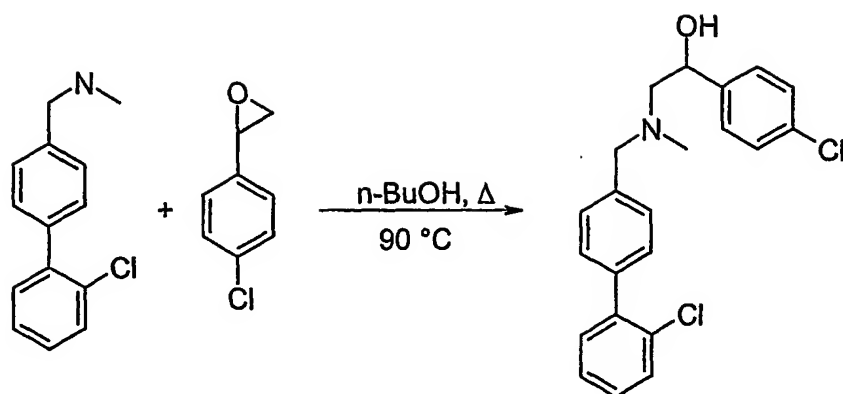


- 5 2'-Chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.434 g, 2.00 mmol) was treated according to General Procedure 3 to provide the title compound (0.278 g, 75%). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>75%) to be used in subsequent steps. MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 232.

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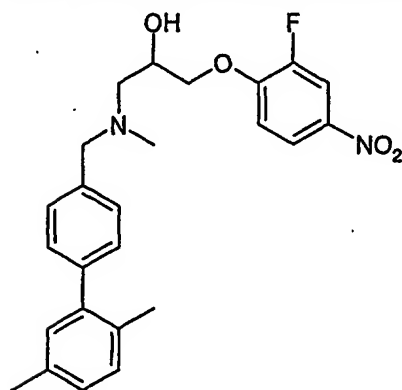
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**Compound 26b: 4-Chloro-α-[[[(2'-chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylanino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**

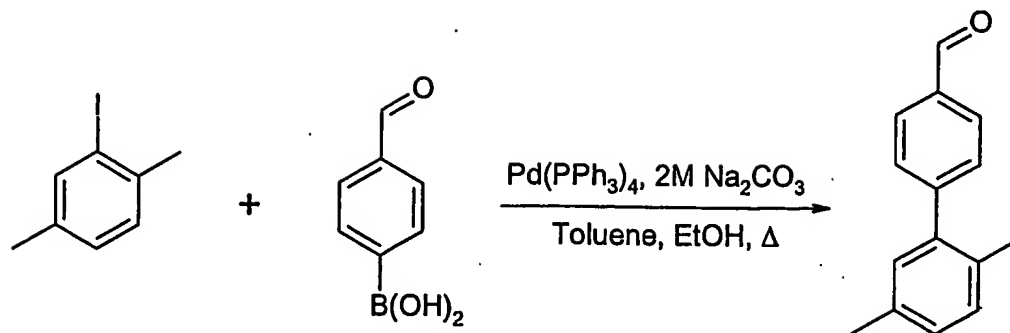


Following General Procedure 5, 2'-chloro-*N*-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine (0.116 g, 0.50 mmol) and 2-(4-chlorophenyl)oxirane (0.078 g, 0.50 mmol) were combined and heated at 90 °C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 25-40% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.074 g, 30%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 7.63-7.50 (br m, 5H), 7.38 (br s, 7H), 5.11 (dd, *J*=3.4 Hz, *J*=10.6 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (br d, *J*=12.0 Hz, 0.5H), 4.47 (br s, 1H), 4.29 (br d, *J*=12.0 Hz, 0.5H), 3.41-3.17 (br d at 3.42, and br m, *J*=9.6 Hz for d, 2H), 3.05 (br s, 1.5H), 2.89 (br s, 1.5H). MS (ESI) (*M*+*H*)<sup>+</sup> = 386. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>21</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>NO + 0.1 H<sub>2</sub>O + 1.1 TFA: C, 56.60; H, 4.38; N, 2.73. Found: C, 56.49; H, 4.28; N, 2.70.

**Example 27: 1-[(2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol**



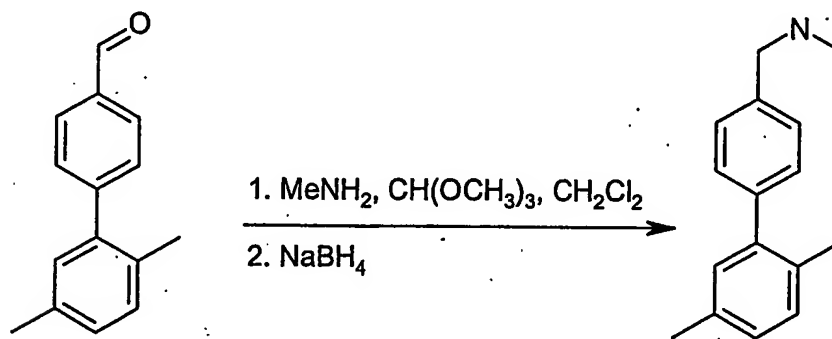
**Compound 27a: 2',5'-Dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde**



Following General Procedure 1, 2-iodo-1,4-dimethyl-benzene (2.06 g, 8.89 mmol), 4-formylphenylboronic acid (2.00 g, 13.34 mmol),  $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$  (0.51 g, 0.44 mmol), and 2 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (31 mL, 62 mmol) were combined. Following the usual work-up provided the title compound (1.67 g, quantitative). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>90%) to be used in the subsequent steps.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  10.06 (s, 1H), 7.92 (dd,  $J=1.8$  Hz,  $J=8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.49 (dd,  $J=1.6$  Hz,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H).

10

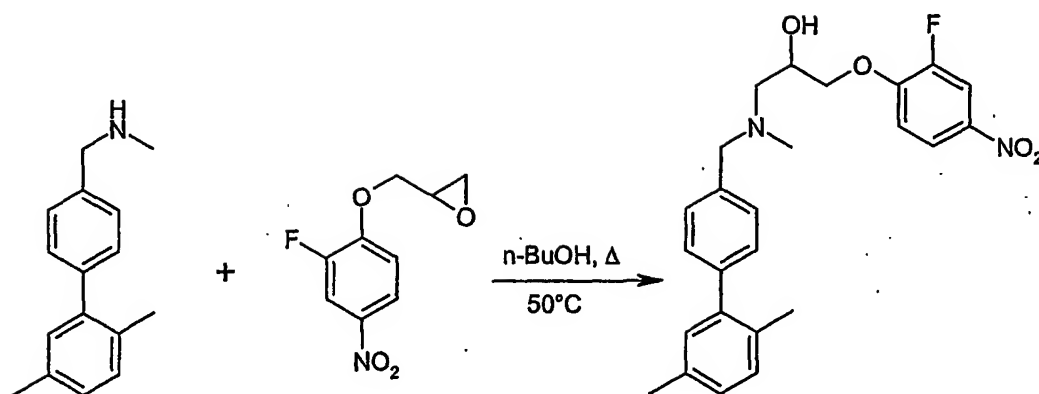
**Compound 27b: *N*,2',5'-Trimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine**



2',5'-Dimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxaldehyde (0.263 g, 1.25 mmol) was treated according to General Procedure 3 to provide the title compound (0.203 g, 80%). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>90%) to be used in subsequent steps. MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 226$ .

15

20 **Compound 27c: 1-[[2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol**



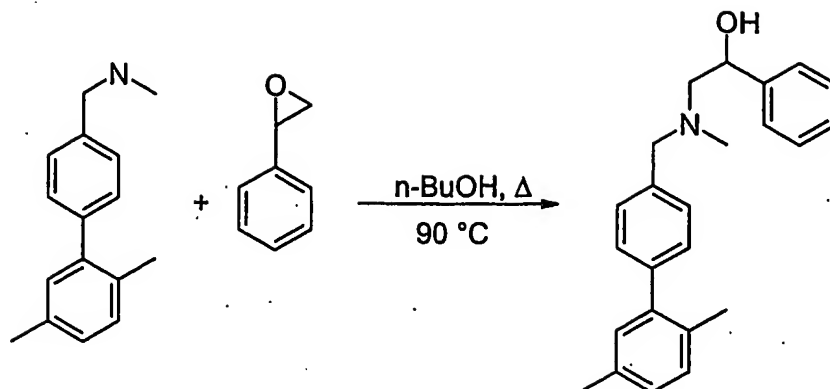
Following General Procedure 5, *N*,2',5'-trimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine (0.068 g, 0.30 mmol) and 2-[(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]oxirane (0.64 g, 0.38 mmol) were combined and heated at 50 °C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 25-40% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.056 g, 34%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>3</sub>CN to produce a white solid. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 8.08-8.00 (br m, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (br s, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 4.61, (br s, 0.5H), 4.46 (br s, 2H), 4.28-4.18 (overlapping br d at 4.26 and br s at 4.18, *J*=15.2 Hz, 2.5H), 3.54-3.22 (br d at 3.52, br s at 3.39, and br s at 3.22, *J*=12.4 Hz, 2H), 2.98-2.91 (overlapping br s at 2.98 and br s at 2.91, 3H); 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) (*M*+H)<sup>+</sup> = 439.

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>27</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> + 0.4 H<sub>2</sub>O + 1.2 TFA: C, 56.49; H, 5.02; N, 4.81. Found: C, 56.46; H, 5.01; N, 4.86.

20

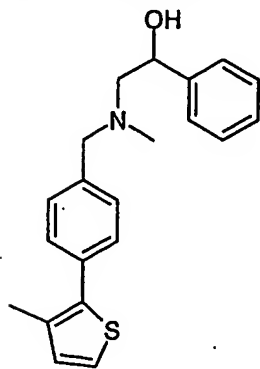
25 **Example 28: α-[[[(2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



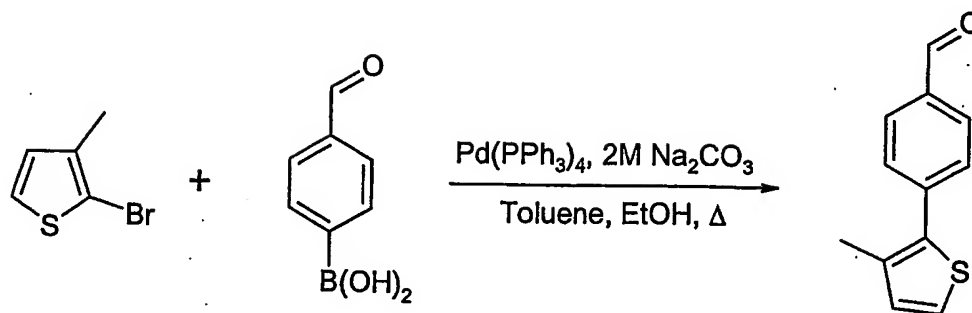


- Following General Procedure 5, *N,N*,2',5'-trimethyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-methanamine (0.072 g, 0.32 mmol) and 2-phenyl-oxirane (0.038 g, 0.32 mmol) were combined and heated at  $90^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 25–40%  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) to provide the title compound (0.033 g, 22%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ /acetonitrile. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained.
- $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  7.54 (br s, 2H), 7.40–7.31 (br m, 7H), 7.13 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 5.08 (dd,  $J=3.6$  Hz,  $J=10.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.71 (br d,  $J=10.0$  Hz, 0.5H), 4.44 (br s, 1H), 4.27 (br d,  $J=13.2$  Hz, 0.5H), 3.41–3.16 (br d at 3.39, and br m,  $J=12.8$  Hz for d, 2H), 3.03 (br s, 1.5H), 2.87 (br s, 1.5H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 346$ . Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO} + 0.6 \text{H}_2\text{O} + 1.0 \text{TFA}$ : C, 66.40; H, 6.26; N, 2.98. Found: C, 66.45; H, 6.16; N, 2.68.

- Example 29:  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[4-(3-methyl-2-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**

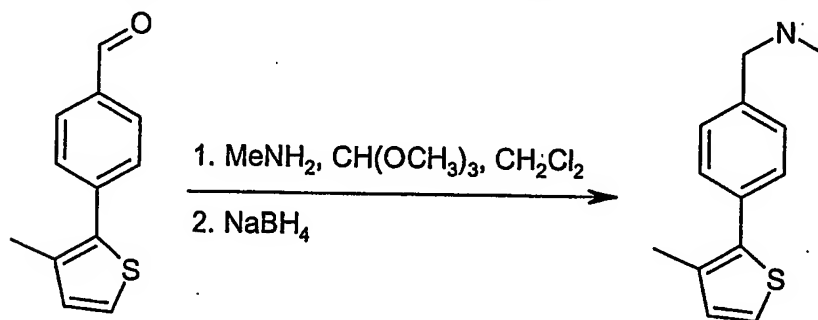


**Compound 29a: 4-(3-Methyl-2-thienyl)-benzaldehyde**



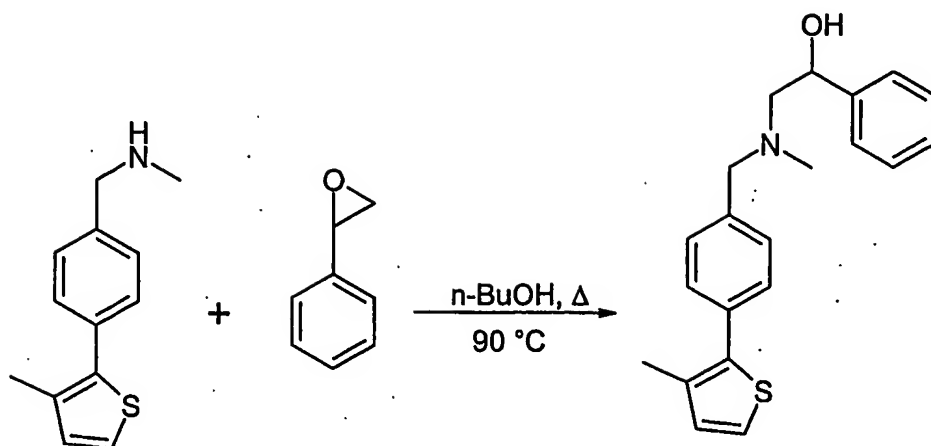
Following General Procedure 1, 2-bromo-3-methyl-thiophene (0.88 g, 4.95 mmol), 4-formylphenylboronic acid (1.11 g, 7.43 mmol),  $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$  (0.29 g, 0.25 mmol), and 2 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (15 mL, 35 mmol) were combined. Following the usual work-up provided the title compound (0.579 g, 58%). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>50%) to be used in subsequent steps.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  10.04 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d,  $J=5.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d,  $J=5.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H).

10 **Compound 29b: *N*-Methyl-4-(3-methyl-2-thienyl)-benzenemethanamine**



4-(3-Methyl-2-thienyl)-benzaldehyde (0.253 g, 1.25 mmol) was treated according to General Procedure 3 to provide the title compound (0.139 g, 57%). The crude material was of sufficient purity (>90%) to be used in subsequent steps.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.55 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.33 (overlapping d at 7.37,  $J=8.4$  Hz, and d at 7.34,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d,  $J=5.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d,  $J=5.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H). MS (ESI)  $(\text{M}+\text{H})^+ = 218$ .

20 **Compound 29c:  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl][4-(3-methyl-2-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol**



Following General Procedure 5, *N*-methyl-4-(3-methyl-2-thienyl)-benzenemethanamine (0.109 g, 0.50 mmol) and 2-phenyl-oxirane (0.060 g, 0.50 mmol) were combined and heated at 90 °C for 24 h. The crude product was purified by reverse phase HPLC (gradient 20-30% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O) to provide the title compound (0.032 g, 14%) as its TFA salt. This material was lyophilized from H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile. Due to quaternization of the stereogenic nitrogen atom, a mixture of 2 diastereomeric salts was obtained. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.62-7.57 (m, 4H), 7.42-7.33 (overlapping d at 7.33 and m,  $J=4.8$  Hz for d, 6H), 6.96 (d,  $J=5.2$  Hz, 1H), 5.12 (br s, 1H), 4.73 (br d,  $J=12.8$  Hz, 0.5H), 4.45 (br s, 1H), 4.27 (br d,  $J=13.2$  Hz, 0.5H), 3.43-3.18 (br d at 3.42,  $J=12.4$  Hz, br d at 3.18,  $J=11.2$  Hz, and br m, 2H), 3.04 (s, 1.5H), 2.88 (s, 1.5H), 2.33 (s, 3H). MS (ESI) (M+H)<sup>+</sup> = 338. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NOS + 0.8 H<sub>2</sub>O + 1.1 TFA: C, 58.38; H, 5.43; N, 2.93. Found: C, 58.48; H, 5.41; N, 2.93.

### EXAMPLES 30- 132

Additional exemplary compounds were prepared according to the general procedures and the examples described above. Mass spectra of these compounds were obtained to confirm the formation of these compounds. These exemplary compounds and the mass spectrum results thereof are listed in Table 2 below.

Table 2

Example No.	Compound Name	MS (ESI) (M+H) <sup>+</sup>
30	1-[4-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)phenoxy]-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol	472
31	1-[4-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)phenoxy]-3-[[2'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-propanol	434
32	$\beta$ -Ethoxy-N-methyl-N-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]benzeneethanamine	414
33	N-Methyl-N-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]glycylglycine, ethyl ester	409
34	N-Ethyl-2-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]acetamide	351
35	$\alpha$ -[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-3,4-dihydro-7-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1H)-isoquinolineethanol	491
36	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[(2,2',5'-trimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	360
37	1-[[[2'-Chloro-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	513
38	4'-[[[3-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]methylamino]methyl]-6-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile	466
39	1-[[[2',5'-Dichloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	479
40	1-[[[4-(2-Chloro-3-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	451
41	4'-[[[3-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]methylamino]methyl]-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbonitrile	436
42	1-[[2'-Chloro-5'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	459
43	1-[[5'-Chloro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	459
44	1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[(2'-nitro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol	456

Example No.	Compound Name	MS (ESI) (M+H) <sup>+</sup>
45	$\alpha$ -[[[4-(2-Chloro-3-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	358/360
46	4'-[[[2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl]methylamino]methyl]-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbonitrile	343
47	$\alpha$ -[[[5'-Chloro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	366/368
48	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-methyl-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	400
49	$\alpha$ -[[[2'-Chloro-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	420/422
50	4'-[[[2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl]methylamino]methyl]-6-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile	373
51	$\alpha$ -[[[2'-Fluoro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	336
52	$\alpha$ -[[[2',5'-Dichloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol	386/388/390
53	Methyl 3-[4-[[[2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl]methylamino]methyl]phenyl]-2-thiophenecarboxylate	382
54	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(1-methylethoxy)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	376
55	$\alpha$ -[[[2'-Ethoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	362
56	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(2-propenyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	358
57	$\alpha$ -[[[2'-Cyclopentyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	386
58	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[5'-methyl-2'-(1-methylethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	374
59	$\alpha$ -[[[2'-Methoxy-5'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol	362
60	1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-methyl-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol	493

Example No.	Compound Name	MS (ESI) (M+H) <sup>+</sup>
61	$\alpha$ -[[[5-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-furanyl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	386/388
62	$\alpha$ -[[[5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-furanyl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	342
63	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[5-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2-furanyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	376
64	Methyl 3-[5-[[2-(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)methylamino]methyl]-2-furanyl]-2-thiophenecarboxylate	372
65	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[4-(3-pyridinyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	319
66	1-[[2-(2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-[4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)phenoxy]-2-propanol	438
67	1-(4-Chlorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol	450
68	1-[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol	416
69	1-[[2'-(2-Methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	423
70	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzeneethanol	400
71	1-(1,1-Dimethylethoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol	396
72	Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]propanoate	382
73	( $\beta^1S$ )- $\beta$ -[[2'-(2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-cyclohexanepropanol	372
74	1-(4-Chlorophenoxy)-3-[[2'-(2-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-2-propanol	422
75	1-[[2'-(2-Methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol	388
76	1-[[2'-(2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol	408

Example No.	Compound Name	MS (ESI) (M+H) <sup>+</sup>
77	1-Phenoxy-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol	442
78	1-[[2'-(2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(3,4-dichlorophenoxy)-2-propanol	476
79	1-[[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ylmethyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	419
80	1-[[2'-(2-Methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	433
81	1-[[2'-(2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	453
82	1-(4-Nitrophenoxy)-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol	487
83	( $\alpha^1S$ )- $\alpha$ -[[[2'-(2-Methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	358
84	( $\alpha^1S$ )- $\alpha$ -[[[2'-(2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	378
85	(2R)-3-[[2'-(2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-2-hydroxypropyl butanoate	402
86	(2R)-2-Hydroxy-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]propyl butanoate	436
87	Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]propanoate	408
88	1-(3-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol	479
89	1-(4-Iodophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol	542
90	1-(3-Fluorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol	434
91	Ethyl 4-[2-hydroxy-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]propoxy]-benzenecarboximidate	487
92	1-[[2'-(2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(3-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	445

Example No.	Compound Name	MS (ESI) (M+H) <sup>+</sup>
93	1-[[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	445
94	1-[[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	427
95	1-[[[(2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol	376
96	1-[[[(2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	421
97	<i>N,N</i> -Diethyl-4-[3-[[[(5'-fluoro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]-3-methoxybenzamide	509
98	Ethyl 4-[3-[[[(5'-fluoro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]benzenecarboximidate	451
99	4-[3-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]- <i>N,N</i> -diethyl-3-methoxybenzamide	579
100	2-[3-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]benzamide	493
101	1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(3-methoxyphenoxy)-2-propanol	480
102	1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(1 <i>H</i> -indol-5-yloxy)-2-propanol	489
103	Ethyl 4-[3-[[[4'-chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]benzenecarboximidate	521
104	1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol	450
105	1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	495
106	2-Fluoro- $\alpha$ -[[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	404

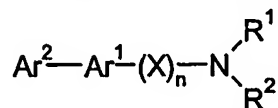


Example No.	Compound Name	MS (ESI) (M+H) <sup>+</sup>
107	$\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol	370
108	$\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Chloro-6'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	366
109	$\alpha$ -[[[(2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol	364
110	4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[(2',5'-dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	380
111	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl][4-(4-methyl-3-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	338
112	1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-propanol	497
113	1-[[[3-Fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	479
114	1-(4-Fluorophenoxy)-3-[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-propanol	452
115	$\alpha$ -[[[[3-Fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	404
116	2-Fluoro- $\alpha$ -[[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	422
117	4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	438
118	1-[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	513
119	1-[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	495
120	1-[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-fluorophenoxy)-2-propanol	468
121	$\alpha$ -[[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	420

Example No.	Compound Name	MS (ESI) (M+H) <sup>+</sup>
122	$\alpha$ -[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol	438
123	4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[2-chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	454
124	$\alpha$ -[[[2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	352
125	1-[[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	475
126	1-[[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol	457
127	1-[[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-fluorophenoxy)-2-propanol	430
128	$\alpha$ -[[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	382
129	$\alpha$ -[[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol	400
130	4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[2'-chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol	416
131	$\alpha$ -[[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzenemethanol	450
132	$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2-furanyl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol	376

**What is claimed is:**

1. A compound of formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



5

**I**

wherein

$\text{Ar}^1$  is arylene, heteroarylene, substituted arylene or substituted heteroarylene, wherein a ring atom of  $\text{Ar}^1$  connected to  $\text{Ar}^2$  is separated from a ring atom of  $\text{Ar}^1$  connected to X by at least one atom;

- 10  $\text{Ar}^2$  is aryl, heteroaryl, substituted aryl or substituted heteroaryl;

n is 0 or 1;

X is a divalent group that separates groups connected thereto by one or two atoms;

- 15  $\text{R}^1$  is a monovalent  $\text{C}_{1-20}$  group comprising one or more heteroatoms selected from S, O, N and P;

$\text{R}^2$  is hydrogen,  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  acyl, substituted  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  acyl, substituted  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  alkylene, or substituted  $\text{C}_{1-10}$  alkylene, wherein said alkylene is linked to a ring carbon of  $\text{Ar}^1$ .

- 20 2. A compound of claim 1, wherein

$\text{Ar}^1$  is an arylene, heteroarylene, substituted arylene or substituted heteroarylene, wherein a ring atom of  $\text{Ar}^1$  connected to  $\text{Ar}^2$  is separated from a ring atom of  $\text{Ar}^1$  connected to X by at least one atom;

$\text{Ar}^2$  is an aryl, heteroaryl, substituted aryl or substituted heteroaryl;

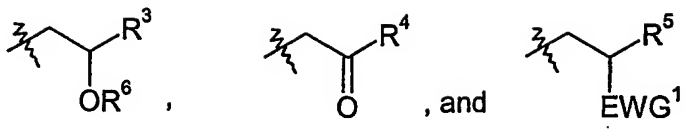
- 25 X is  $-\text{CH}_2-$ , or  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ ;

$\text{R}^2$  is  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl, substituted  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $\text{C}_{1-3}$  alkylene, or substituted  $\text{C}_{1-3}$  alkylene, wherein said alkylene is linked to a ring carbon of  $\text{Ar}^1$ .

3. A compound of claim 2,

30 wherein

$\text{R}^1$  is selected from:



wherein  $R^3$  is optionally hydrogen, substituted  $C_{1-10}$ alkyl, optionally substituted  $C_{5-12}$ aryl, optionally substituted  $C_{3-10}$ heteroaryl, optionally substituted  
 5 aryloxy- $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryloxy- $C_{1-6}$ alkyl;

$R^4$  and  $R^5$  are, independently, hydrogen, optionally substituted  $C_{1-10}$ alkyl, optionally substituted  $C_{5-12}$ aryl, optionally substituted  $C_{3-10}$ heteroaryl, amino group,  $-NHC(=O)-O-R^7$ , or  $-NHC(=O)-R^7$ , wherein  $R^7$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl or aryl;

$R^6$  is hydrogen, optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, or optionally substituted aryl;  
 10 and

$EWG^1$  is an electron withdrawing group.

4. A compound according to claim 1, wherein

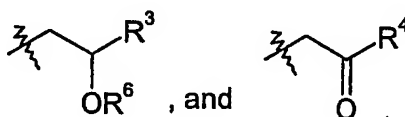
$Ar^1$  is optionally substituted *para*-phenylene, optionally substituted six-  
 15 membered *para*-heteroarylene, or optionally substituted monocyclic five-membered *meta*-heteroarylene;

$Ar^2$  is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted monocyclic five or six-membered heteroaryl;

X is  $-CH_2-$ , or  $-CH_2-CH_2-$ ;

20  $R^2$  is  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl, substituted  $C_{1-3}$  alkyl,  $C_{1-3}$  alkylene, or substituted  $C_{1-3}$  alkylene, wherein said alkylene is linked to a ring carbon of  $Ar^1$ .

$R^1$  is selected from:

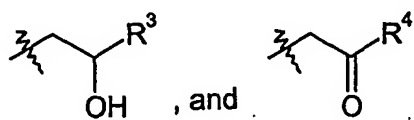


wherein  $R^3$  is optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl,  
 25 optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl;

$R^4$  is, independently, optionally substituted  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl, amino,  $-NHC(=O)-O-R^7$ , or  $-NHC(=O)-R^7$ , wherein  $R^7$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl or phenyl;  
 and

$R^6$  is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl.

5. A compound according to claim 1, wherein  
 $Ar^1$  is *para*-phenylene or *para*-pyridylene;  
 $Ar^2$  is a phenyl *ortho*-substituted with an electron withdrawing group, or a  
 5 thienyl *ortho*-substituted with an electron withdrawing group;  
 $X$  is  $-CH_2-$ ;  
 $R^2$  is methyl.  
 $R^1$  is selected from:

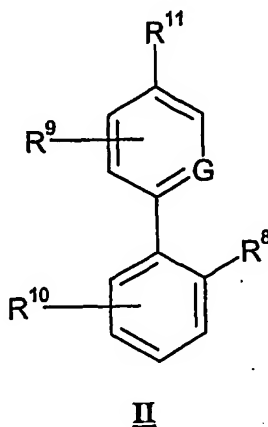


- 10 wherein  $R^3$  is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl; and  
 $R^4$  is  $-NHC(=O)-O-R^7$ , wherein  $R^7$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl.

6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein  
 15  $Ar^2$  is a phenyl *ortho*-substituted with  $-Cl$ ,  $-F$ ,  $-OMe$ ,  $-OEt$ ,  $-O-CH(CH_3)_2$ ,  $-CF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ , or  $-CN$ ; or thienyl *ortho*-substituted with  $-Cl$ ,  $-F$ ,  $-OMe$ ,  $-OEt$ ,  $-O-CH(CH_3)_2$ ,  $-CF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $-CN$ , wherein said *ortho*-substituted  $Ar^2$  is optionally further substituted at its non-*ortho* position; and  
 $R^3$  is phenyl, substituted phenoxy-methyl or substituted phenyl.

20

7. A compound of formula II, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein

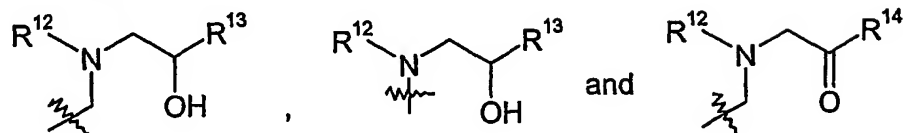
G is N or CH;

R<sup>8</sup> is selected from -H, -CH<sub>3</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -NO<sub>2</sub> and -CN;

R<sup>9</sup> is selected from -H and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl;

5 R<sup>10</sup> is selected from -H and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl; and

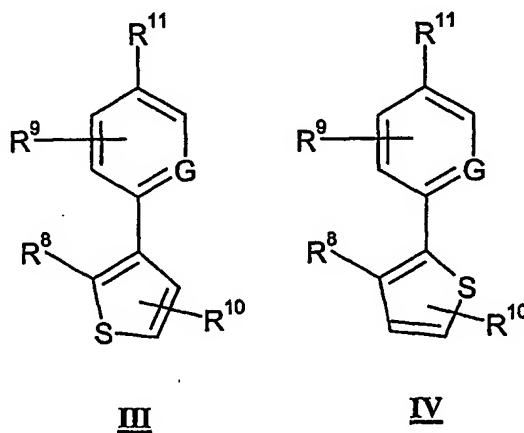
R<sup>11</sup> is selected from



wherein R<sup>12</sup> is H or methyl, R<sup>13</sup> is phenyl or substituted phenoxyethyl, R<sup>14</sup> is -NHC(=O)OR<sup>15</sup>, wherein R<sup>15</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl.

10

8. A compound of formula III or IV, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



15 wherein

G is N or CH;

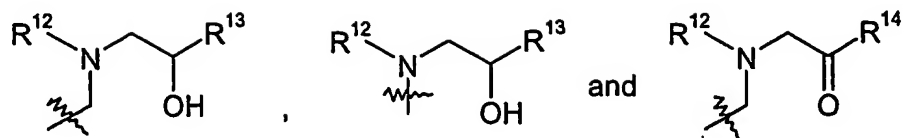
R<sup>8</sup> is selected from -H, -CH<sub>3</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -NO<sub>2</sub> and -CN;

R<sup>9</sup> is selected from -H and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl;

R<sup>10</sup> is selected from -H and C<sub>1-3</sub>alkyl; and

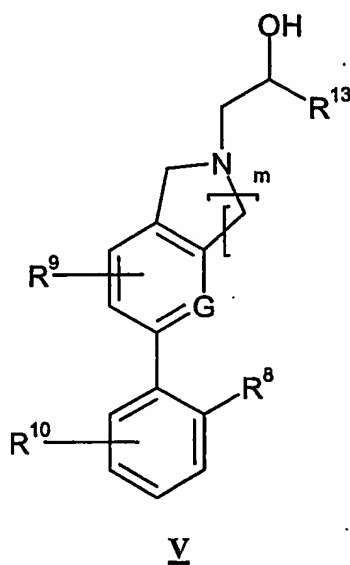
20 R<sup>11</sup> is selected from

86



wherein  $R^{12}$  is H or methyl,  $R^{13}$  is phenyl or substituted phenoxyethyl,  $R^{14}$  is  $-NHC(=O)OR^{15}$ , wherein  $R^{15}$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl.

5 9. A compound of formula V, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



V

wherein

- 10 G is N or CH;  
 m is 1 or 2;  
 $R^8$  is selected from  $-H$ ,  $-CH_3$ ,  $-CF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$  and  $-CN$ ;  
 $R^9$  is selected from  $-H$  and  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl;  
 $R^{10}$  is selected from  $-H$  and  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl; and  
 15  $R^{13}$  is phenyl or substituted phenoxyethyl.

10. A compound is selected from:

- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[(2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;  
 $\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

- $\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;
- 5 1-(3,4-Dichlorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]- 2-propanol;
- $\alpha$ -[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-3,4-dihydro-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol;
- Ethyl [[methyl-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-
- 10 acetyl]carbamate;
- 3,4-Dihydro- $\alpha$ -phenyl-7-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol;
- 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]amino]- 2-propanol;
- $\alpha$ -[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-1,3-dihydro-5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2*H*-
- 15 isoindole-2-ethanol;
- 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]- 2-propanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl-[[6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-pyridinyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;
- 20  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[(2'-nitro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;
- ( $\alpha^1S$ )- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;
- ( $\alpha^1R$ )- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;



- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;
- N*-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-*N*-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]acetamide;
- N*-(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)-*N*-methyl-2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxamide;
- $\beta$ -Methoxy-*N*-methyl-*N*-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]-benzeneethanamine;
- 10 3,4-Dihydro- $\alpha$ -phenyl-6-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1*H*)-isoquinolineethanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[5-[1-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl]-2-thienyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;
- 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol ;
- 15 1-[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 1-[[[(2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;
- 20 4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[(2'-chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;
- 1-[[[(2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

$\alpha$ -[[[(2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[4-(3-methyl-2-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

5 1-[4-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)phenoxy]-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

1-[4-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)phenoxy]-3-[[2'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-propanol;

$\beta$ -Ethoxy-N-methyl-N-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]benzeneethanamine;

N-Methyl-N-[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]glycylglycine, ethyl ester;

N-Ethyl-2-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]acetamide;

15  $\alpha$ -[(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)methyl]-3,4-dihydro-7-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2(1H)-isoquinolineethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[(2,2',5'-trimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

1-[[[2'-Chloro-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-20 (2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

4'-[[[3-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]methylamino]methyl]-6-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile;

1-[[[(2',5'-Dichloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

- 1-[[[4-(2-Chloro-3-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 4'-[[[3-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]methylamino]methyl]-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbonitrile;
- 5 1-[[[(2'-Chloro-5'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 1-[[[(5'-Chloro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 10 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[(2'-nitro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[[4-(2-Chloro-3-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- 4'-[[[(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)methylamino]methyl]-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbonitrile;
- 15  $\alpha$ -[[[(5'-Chloro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-methyl-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[[2'-Chloro-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- 20 4'-[[[(2-Hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)methylamino]methyl]-6-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile;
- $\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Fluoro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[[(2,5'-Dichloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

Methyl 3-[4-[[[(2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)methylamino]methyl]phenyl]-2-thiophenecarboxylate;

5  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(1-methylethoxy)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Ethoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

10  $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(2-propenyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Cyclopentyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[5'-methyl-2'-(1-methylethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

15  $\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Methoxy-5'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-benzenemethanol;

1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-methyl-5'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

20  $\alpha$ -[[[[5-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-furanyl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[[[5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-furanyl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[5-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2-furanyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

Methyl 3-[5-[[2-hydroxy-2-phenylethyl)methylamino]methyl]-2-furanyl]-2-thiophenecarboxylate;

$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[4-(3-pyridinyl)phenyl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

1-[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl)methylamino]-3-[4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)phenoxy]-2-propanol;

1-(4-Chlorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

1-[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;

10 1-[[2'-Methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl)methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]methyl]benzeneethanol;

15 1-(1,1-Dimethylethoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol;

Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]propanoate;

( $\beta^1S$ )- $\beta$ -[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl)methylamino]-cyclohexanepropanol;

20 1-(4-Chlorophenoxy)-3-[[2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-2-propanol;

1-[[2'-Methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;

- 1-[[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;
- 1-Phenoxy-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol;
- 5 1-[[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(3,4-dichlorophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 1-[[[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 10 1-[[[2'-Methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 1-[[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 1-(4-Nitrophenoxy)-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]-2-propanol;
- 15 ( $\alpha^1S$ )- $\alpha$ -[[[2'-Methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- ( $\alpha^1S$ )- $\alpha$ -[[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- (2R)-3-[[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]-2-propenylamino]-2-hydroxypropyl butanoate ;
- 20 (2R)-2-Hydroxy-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]propyl butanoate;
- Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-3-[2-propenyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]amino]propanoate;

- 1-(3-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;
- 1-(4-Iodophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;
- 5 1-(3-Fluorophenoxy)-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]-2-propanol;
- Ethyl 4-[2-hydroxy-3-[methyl[[2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]propoxy]-benzenecarboximidate;
- 10 1-[[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(3-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 1-[[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 1-[[[2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 15 1-[[[2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;
- 1-[[[2',3'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- N,N*-Diethyl-4-[3-[[[5'-fluoro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]-3-methoxybenzamide;
- 20 Ethyl 4-[3-[[[5'-fluoro-2'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]benzenecarboximidate;

4-[3-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]-*N,N*-diethyl-3-methoxybenzamide;

5 2-[3-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]benzamide;

1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(3-methoxyphenoxy)-2-propanol;

10 1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(1*H*-indol-5-yloxy)-2-propanol;

Ethyl 4-[3-[[[4'-chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-hydroxypropoxy]benzenecarboximidate;

1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-phenoxy-2-propanol;

15 1-[[[4'-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

2-Fluoro- $\alpha$ -[[methyl][2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

20  $\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[[(2'-Chloro-6'-methyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[[(2',5'-Dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol;



4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[(2',5'-dimethyl[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

$\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[4-(4-methyl-3-thienyl)phenyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

5 1-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-3-[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-propanol;

1-[[[3-Fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

10 1-(4-Fluorophenoxy)-3-[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-2-propanol;

$\alpha$ -[[[3-Fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

2-Fluoro- $\alpha$ -[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

15 4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[3-fluoro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

1-[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

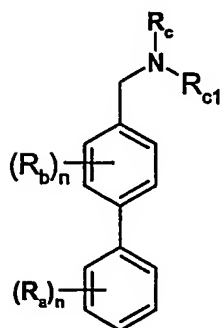
20 1-[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;

1-[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-fluorophenoxy)-2-propanol;

$\alpha$ -[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl]methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;

- $\alpha$ -[[[2-Chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol;
- 4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[2-chloro-2'-(trifluoromethyl)[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- 5  $\alpha$ -[[[2-Chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- 1-[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(2-fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 1-[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-nitrophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- 10 1-[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]-3-(4-fluorophenoxy)-2-propanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- 15  $\alpha$ -[[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-2-fluorobenzenemethanol;
- 4-Chloro- $\alpha$ -[[[2'-chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]benzenemethanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[[2'-Chloro-5'-methoxy[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl]methylamino]methyl]-
- 20 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzenemethanol;
- $\alpha$ -[[Methyl[[5-[2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-2-furanyl]methyl]amino]methyl]benzenemethanol; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
- 25 11. A compound according to any one of claims 1-10 for use as a medicament.

12. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the therapy of pain.
- 5 13. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of immune cancer.
14. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1-10 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of multiple sclerosis, vision  
10 impairment, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's chorea or Alzheimer's disease.
15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1-10 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 15 16. A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1-10.
17. A method for preparing a compound of formula X,

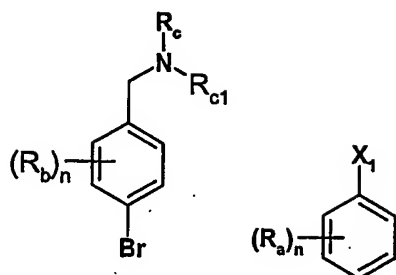


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X

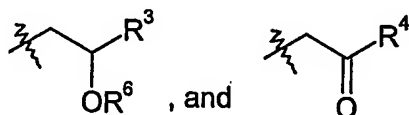
comprising the steps of

- a) reacting a compound of formula IX with bis(pinacolato)diboron in the presence of  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ ; and

IXVI

b) reacting a product of step a) with a compound of formula VI to form the compound of formula X,

- wherein  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  are independently selected from  $-H$ ,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $-CF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  
 5 and  $-CN$ ;  $n$  is 1 or 2;  $R_c$  is selected from:

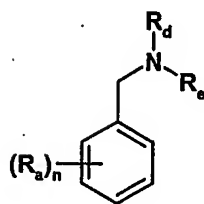


wherein  $R^3$  is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl;

$R^4$  is  $-NHC(=O)-O-R^7$ , wherein  $R^7$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl; and  $R_{c1}$  is  $-H$  or  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl.

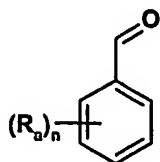
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18. A process for preparing a compound of formula XIII,

XIII

comprising the steps of:

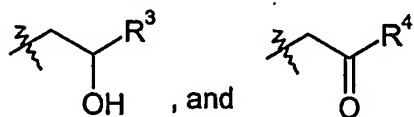
- a) reacting a compound of formula XI with  $R_dR_eNH$ ; and

XI

b) reacting a product of step a) with  $\text{NaBH}(\text{OAc})_3$  to form the compound of formula XIII,

$\text{R}_a$  is selected from optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl;

5  $n$  is 1 or 2;  $\text{R}_d$  and  $\text{R}_e$  are independently selected from  $-\text{H}$ ,  $\text{C}_{1-3}$ alkyl,

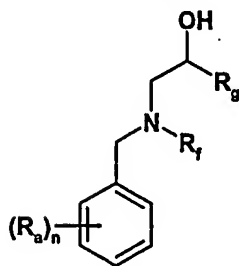


wherein  $\text{R}^3$  is optionally substituted phenyl, or optionally substituted phenoxy-methyl,

$\text{R}^4$  is  $-\text{NHC}(=\text{O})-\text{O}-\text{R}^7$ , wherein  $\text{R}^7$  is  $\text{C}_{1-6}$ alkyl; wherein at least one of  $\text{R}_d$  and

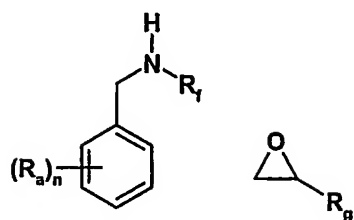
10  $\text{R}_e$  contains an oxygen atom.

19. A method for preparing a compound of formula XV,

XV

comprising the step of:

15 reacting a compound of formula XII with a compound of formula XIV,



**XII** , **XIV** ,

wherein  $R_a$  is selected from optionally substituted aryl and optionally substituted heteroaryl;  $n$  is 1 or 2;  $R_f$  is  $-H$  or  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl; and  $R_g$  is optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted phenoxyethyl.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 2003/002088

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b>		
IPC7: C07D 333/10, C07D 213/36, C07D 211/70, C07D 209/44, C07C 221/27, A61K 31/137, A61K 31/4035 A61K 31/4418, 31/451, 31/381, A61P 25/04 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b>		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)		
IPC7: C07D		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)		
CHEM.ABS.DATA, WPI DATA, BIOSIS		
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	Chemistry and Physics of Lipids, Volume 121, 2002, Sonya L. Palmer et al, "Review: Cannabinergic ligands", pages 3-19  --	1-19
A	Chemistry and Physics of Lipids, Volume 121, 2002, T. Philip Malan et al, "Review: Inhibition of pain responses by activation of CB2 cannabinoid receptors", pages 191-200  -- -----	1-19
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
5 April 2004		08-04-2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Swedish Patent Office Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86		Authorized officer CAROLINA GÓMEZ LAGERLÖF/BS Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/SE 2003/002088

## Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1-6  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
**see extra sheet**
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1-6  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:  
**see extra sheet**
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/SE 2003/002088

### Box II.1

Claim 16 relate to methods of treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or by therapy or diagnostic methods practiced on the human or animal body (Rule 39.1(iv)). Nevertheless, a search has been executed for this claim. The search has been based on the alleged effects of the compounds or compositions.

### Box II.2

Present claims 1-6 relate to a large number of possible compounds. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the compounds claimed. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible.

Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts related to the compounds defined in claims 7-9.

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